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MIGHTY MULLETS

With their team on the brink of a historic playoff berth, Whitecaps staff are channelling the power of the mullet going into Sunday's game. See story on page 6. KATE WEBB/METRO

Waiting for justice

Surrey mother "very much looking forward to" trials for her son's alleged murderers PAGE 3

Jihadist had sights set on Obama: Police

A New York City car-bomb plot was initially supposed to be an attack on the U.S. president, an official reveals PAGE 18

Her head in the clouds

Susan Sarandon tells Metro what it takes to play four different characters in Cloud Atlas PAGE 35

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NEWS

Families await justice five years after Surrey Six murders

Ongoing grief. Mother of innocent victim still struggling with murder of her son

ELIZABETH HAMES
vancouver@metronews.ca

Five years ago, the worst gangland slaying in the city's history left six dead in a Surrey apartment.

In the months that followed, the RCMP would start a Gang Task Force to crack down on the violence that was terrorizing the city. Five men would be charged in connection with the Surrey Six massacre. And light would be shed on the shady underworld of the "Red Scorpions," the gang allegedly responsible for Oct. 19, 2007 murders.

But probably no one felt the transformative effects of the violence more than the families of the two innocent bystanders killed during the attack.

Ed Schellenberg, a 55-year-old repairman, father and husband, was finishing up a job in the apartment, unit 1505 of the Balmoral Tower, when the gunmen started shooting.

Eileen Mohan's 22-year-old son, Christopher, was another innocent victim. Police haven't released many details of his death, but at the time of the gang hit, he was at home in Unit 1504.

Christopher and Schellenberg's presence at the scene was pure coincidence: a fact that Mohan has struggled with.

"I've walked to the doorsteps of hell and I am slowly turning back to be the person I am at the moment," she said about the past five years.

However, Mohan has used her tragedy to become a voice for change. In the past few years, she has held youth forums that preach about the damaging effects of gangs and she's held charity golf tournaments to raise money for at-risk youth.

She applauds the efforts of the RCMP and her own city of Surrey to curb gang activity and bring her son's alleged killers to justice.

"We will never be able to stop people who want to join gangs. And I feel we are in power, we are getting in front of them, we are in their faces," she said.

Sgt. Peter Thiesen, RCMP spokesperson, said there is no court date set for the trials of high-profile gangster Jamie Bacon, Cody Rae Haevischer, Matthew James Johnston and Quang Vinh Thang (Michael) Le, who have all been charged with conspiracy to commit murder. Sophon Sek has also been charged in connection with the murders.

However, they are expected to be tried in three separate trials beginning sometime next year.

"I feel very fortunate … that maybe next year the trial will start and at least I will get some sort of a justice for Christopher," Mohan said. "I'm actually very, very much looking forward to that."

But Mohan still can't help but get emotional when she talks about her son.

"He would have been 27 years old, he would have graduated, probably having a great life," she said about her son, who loved to play basketball and work on old cars.

Her voice cracked when she added, "I am very appreciative of everyone who is helping Christopher and I along this journey. We are travelling together."

Eileen Mohan looks forward to the day her son's killers are brought to justice. METRO FILE

MLA says pot prohibition is 'futile'

The Stop the Violence campaign features a growing list of supporters seeking to decriminalize marijuana. METRO FILE

A sitting member of the B.C. legislature and former longtime police officer has joined the growing grassroots campaign calling for the legalization of marijuana.

Liberal MLA Kash Heed, who has said he won't be seeking re-election, has joined the Stop the Violence campaign saying he believes continuing pot prohibition is futile.

He says his 31 years in law enforcement, including as West Vancouver police chief and a stint heading the Vancouver Police drug unit, brought him to believe criminalization fuels gang violence.

Former attorney general Geoff Plant, who also endorses the campaign, says Heed has shown political courage by speaking out against what he feels are failed laws and is urging political leaders to base policy on evidence.

Heed says he'll use his remaining time in office to reach out to provincial leaders in an attempt to ensure discussions about more effective public health and safety strategies become part of the debate before the May election.

Last month, the Union of B.C. Municipalities passed a resolution calling for the decriminalization of cannabis.

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Stars take to the stage for Vancouver's We Day at Rogers Arena to talk about their own experiences with bullying — and hope

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1

1 From me to we. Thousands of young people packed Rogers Arena Thursday for We Day, which calls on young people to stand up for change and fight for local and global causes.

2 Say no to bullying. "This is an issue that we can beat, we can get through and this is something that will not bring you down," American singer-songwriter Demi Lovato says.

2

3

4

Anti-bullying message echoes at We Day

The message. Event also tackled issues including poverty, overcoming adversity, and charity

3 "Discrimination is not cool." Five-time NBA champion and HIV activist Magic Johnson urges young people to step in and defend people who are being bullied.

4 Next generation of leaders. An estimated 20,000 youth were treated to inspiring messages from Nobel Peace Prize laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu to Me to We speaker Spencer West, whose legs were amputated when he was five, but reached the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro this past summer. There were also musical performances from pop acts such as OneRepublic and Shawn Desman.

Magic Johnson, Demi Lovato, Molly Burke and Cody Simpson have something in common — they've been discriminated against or bullied.

High-profile speakers and performers took to the stage at Vancouver's We Day event Thursday, tackling issues including poverty, overcoming adversity, and charity.

But what dominated the most was the message against bullying, a topic in the spotlight across Canada because of Amanda Todd — a Port Coquitlam teen who recently took her own life after being bullied online and at school.

American pop star Demi Lovato, who dealt with bullying when she was 12 that led her to depression and cutting, said that young women like Todd can be particularly vulnerable.

"They're at an age when their bodies are changing … they're coming into themselves," she said, stressing the importance of spreading awareness on the issue. "Middle school, high school is a really hard time to make it through and rise above things."

Lovato's message resonated with Lauren Meekma, 11, from Kelowna's Ann McClymont Elementary who said she was inspired to "help people out when they're getting bullied and what to do when you're the one getting bullied."

Johnson, a five-time NBA champion and former L.A. Lakers player, told a stadium packed with 18,000 youth of his bout against discrimination when he contracted HIV more than two decades ago.

"Instead of getting upset, I decided to educate them about that you could play against a player with HIV and not worry about it," he said, urging youth to see past race and appearance because "discrimination is not cool."

Burke was severely bullied for being blind, while Simpson — a 15-year-old Australian pop singer and YouTube star — was made fun of for wanting to sing.

But human rights advocate Archbishop Desmond Tutu believes that positive change is possible.

"There is no problem that is insoluble," Tutu told reporters at the event. "There was a time when people told us apartheid would never end, or it was going to end with a racial bloodbath. It's ended. And so, why shouldn't we say, 'Ah, this is a world that is made ultimately for goodness, that each one of us is in fact made of goodness."

Rise above

"Middle school, high school is a really hard time to make it through and rise above things."

American pop star Demi Lovato, a victim of bullying on young women like Amanda Todd — a Port Coquitlam teen who recently committed suicide after being bullied online and at school.

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With mullet, Whitecaps just a hair away from history

Hairdo power. Whitecaps captain says the mullet is working to the team's advantage

KATE WEBB
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The Whitecaps have not conceded a goal since team captain Jay DeMerit got a mullet. BOB FRID/WHITECAPS FC

Whitecaps team captain Jay DeMerit says the power of the mullet is strong in Vancouver, and he plans to keep kickin' it business in the front and a party in the back until his team breaks into the playoffs.

"The Playoff Hunter" says it's no coincidence the club has not conceded a goal since his righteous mullet was born Sept. 27, or that after shaving four power-stripers onto the sides of his head the team defeated Chivas U.S.A. 4-0.

"It becomes a superstition once it works for you," he told Metro. "The more power we started to put towards it the better we did on the field. So the fans resonate with it and all of a sudden it just becomes something much bigger than a haircut."

Two barbers will be on hand for the 'Caps Kickoff in Terry Fox Plaza from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday to cut mullets by donation, with all proceeds going to the United Way.

If that's too much commitment, there will also be more than 100 mullet wigs for sale by donation, and fans are encouraged to wear their own wigs or similar accessories to the game for a chance to win the jersey off DeMerit's back at the end of the match. Mulleted fans will also get a 10 per cent discount on regularly priced merchandise.

Whitecaps president Bob Lenarduzzi laughed when asked about Jay the Playoff Hunter.

"Jay is a bit of a free spirit, and we love that," he said, admitting he once wore his hair long and shaggy in the '70s.

"When I wore it, it wasn't a mullet. It was just a hairstyle." Lenarduzzi said it will be a historic moment if the Whitecaps win, becoming the first Canadian team to enter the Major League Soccer playoffs. With the game nearly sold out, the pressure is on.

"We need to make sure that we don't stray to far from the things that have enabled us to get into this position, and what often happens in situations like this is the anxiety gets the better of you and you don't perform well, so we need to make sure that we don't let that happen to us."

History of the mullet

Some very powerful figures have sported mullets.

- **Circa 54 AD.** The Roman emperor Nero may have had a mullet, according to the ancient biographer Suetonius.
- **7th Century AD.** The huns rebelled against the Roman Empire whilst rocking the revolutionary 'do.
- **1970s.** David Bowie, Paul and Linda McCartney propel the mullet into the pop culture stratosphere.
- **1980s.** Bono's legendary mullet inspires legions of U2 fans to grow a party in the back.
- **1990s.** Jerry Springer contestants and Billy Ray Cyrus carry on the proud tradition.
- **2010.** Iran bans the mullet and promotes a new set of Islamic hairstyles to "confront the cultural assault by the West."
- **2012.** Captain Jay DeMerit's mullet inspires the Whitecaps to become the first Canadian team to reach the MLS playoffs?
- **Other names.** Synonyms for mullet: Ape drape, Norco Neck Warmer, 1090 (10 per cent on top, 90 per cent in the back), hockey hair, Kentucky Waterfall, forbidden hair, shom.

Enbridge challenges B.C. government

The company that wants to build the proposed Northern Gateway pipeline through pristine British Columbian wilderness is challenging provincial government officials to stop the trash talk and come see company operations for themselves.

Janet Holder, executive vice-president of Western access for Enbridge, issued a news release Thursday in response to yet another broadside from the government outlining what it sees as the unacceptable answers Enbridge is giving to questions during environmental hearings into the project in Prince George this week.

Environment Minister Terry Lake has taken Enbridge to task for a lack of detail in its spill response plan, among other issues.

"The answers that we are getting in Prince George show that Enbridge/Northern Gateway has not yet done the work to prove that this pipeline will be safe," Lake said in the news release.

"The company is not giving us much reason to have confidence that they can deliver on their promises."

The release was issued as hearings on Northern Gateway wrapped up after two weeks in Prince George.

They resume again next month in Prince Rupert, where issues including the potential of a deep-water spill will be examined.

Holder fought back Thursday in her own release.

"There is a need for direct discussions rather than interchanges through the media. This is the time for the B.C. government to be working with Northern Gateway to create the best possible solution for British Columbians," she wrote. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chilliwack

Mounties bust grow-op

Two people are facing drug charges after Mounties busted a grow-op near an elementary school and daycare in Chilliwack. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Victoria Police

Off-duty cops lauded as heroes

A pair of off-duty officers with the Victoria Police Department are being hailed as heroes after they came to the rescue of a woman being beaten by a gun-wielding robber on Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Failing. B.C. must improve women's rights, according to new report

The West Coast Women's Legal Education and Action Fund released its fourth annual report card on women's rights Thursday claiming the B.C. government is failing women on access to justice.

While it gave the province an overall passing grade of C-, the group gave B.C. an F on protecting the rights of missing and murdered women and girls, as well as for underfunding the legal aid system.

The government got a D+ on social assistance and poverty, a C- on childcare, Cs on women and housing, treatment of women and girls in prison, and health care. The best grade was a B-, which it received for taking "significant strides" toward reducing violence against women with its new Family Law Act. KATE WEBB/METRO

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Iron dust in the ocean. Feds, Haida at odds over salmon program

Members of a prominent First Nation in British Columbia and the federal government appear to be at odds over a salmon-enhancement project that saw tonnes of iron dust deposited into the waters off the West Coast.

The multi-million dollar project was taken on by the Haida Salmon Restoration Corporation this past summer in international waters about 200 nautical miles west of the islands.

Known as ocean fertilization, the effort was meant to stimulate the production of plankton or algae blooms, which help provide nutrients to salmon.

The band says in a news release the effort was part of a research project, was lawful and complied with the Law of the Sea Convention and the Ocean Act.

But a spokesman for the federal minister of environment says it informed the company that any iron ore deposit inside or outside the 200-nautical-mile limit would violate the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, except for purposes of legitimate research.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Investigation

- A spokesman for the federal ministry of environment says Environment Canada never received an application for ocean fertilization under the Disposal at Sea program and has launched an investigation.

Good Samaritan. Woman returns cash blowing around parking lot

Police in Vernon, B.C., are hailing a woman who chased after a large amount of cash blowing around a parking lot.

RCMP spokesman Gord Molendyk says the woman saw the cash on Tuesday and gathered up as much as she could. She called police and then left a message with a nearby business.

It turns out the money had been dropped without being noticed by a business owner.

More than $2,000 has now been returned to the very grateful entrepreneur.

Police say the Good Samaritan, who's in her 40s, didn't want to be identified.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Money back

$2,000

More than $2,000 has now been returned to the very grateful business owner.

Strategic relations

Victoria mayor hopes to make friends in China

Victoria's mayor is leading a delegation to China to build the capital city's brand and boost its economy.

Dean Fortin departs tomorrow with 26 people, including business, tourism and education representatives, to visit six cities over 10 days.

Fortin says he hopes to build on the success of his last trip to China in 2010 and will work to establish more strategic relationships.

China is B.C.'s second-largest trading partner, and both Premier Christy Clark and Prime Minister Stephen Harper have travelled there in the past year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Broader presence

Aquarium wants to make use of shipyards space

Some old shipyards may become a new home for creatures from the sea.

The Vancouver Aquarium is exploring a possible expansion onto the North Vancouver shipyards, along the Lonsdale waterfront.

The city's council is accepting suggestions for locations where the aquarium could set up new exhibits, as it seeks to have broader presence in the region.

Mayor Darrell Mussatto says there's been plans to redevelop the waterfront for some time into a public space that could also include retail and other amenities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Topshop opened its first Vancouver location at The Bay Thursday. ELIZABETH HAMES/FOR METRO

No stampede at Topshop opening

Fussy shoppers. Opening of trendy retailer a relatively low-key affair

ELIZABETH HAMES
vancouver@metronews.ca

When Topshop opened its first Australian location in Melbourne last year, hundreds of ecstatic shoppers lined up overnight for an opportunity to be the next trendsetter.

It's the same at the clothing retailer's launches around the world: New York, London, Paris, Hong Kong. Wherever Topshop goes, fashionistas flock — except in Vancouver.

When the women's clothing store — and its male equivalent, Topman — made their debut at The Bay Thursday morning, only a handful of shoppers turned out. At times, there appeared to be more staff than there were customers browsing the furry clutches, pink blush and sequined tops.

Visiting Australian Karen Osman was one of the few.

She was expecting Thursday's opening to be more like the one in Melbourne, which happens to be her hometown.

"I was surprised when I walked past this morning to see how empty it was," she said.

Courtney Hunter of Langley agreed, but she is happy with the look of the place, she said.

"They've got, like, all the new stuff, so it's not, like, older products," said Hunter, who is somewhat of a Topshop connoisseur (she's been to stores in Chicago and New York).

Despite Thursday's poor turnout, her and friend Zoe Dixon think Topshop will be a hit with Vancouverites.

"All my friends love it," said Dixon. "And I do, too."

Osman said the store will appeal to older women, as well.

"It's better than H&M in terms of the layout, the quality of the merchandise, the quality of the clothes," she said. "As a mature-age woman, I'm a bit more fussy about that kind of thing."

Family of shot border guard says thanks

Cards, flowers, letters and other messages of support have been pouring in for the family of a guard shot in her booth at a busy Canada-U.S. border crossing and the guard's family says they are very grateful.

Lori Bowcock's family said in a statement Thursday she is doing well and is expected to make a full recovery.

"We are happy to report that her positive outlook and sense of humour are shining through," the statement said.

"Even after she was wounded, Lori's first concern was for the safety of her fellow officers and the public that she has dedicated her career to protect."

Well-wishes have been sent from U.S. and Canadian border guards, the U.S. consulate, Washington Gov. Christine Gregoire, Surrey Mayor Diane Watts and former colleagues at the Ontario Provincial Police.

"Lori has read each of these messages of support and is deeply moved by the thoughtfulness and care expressed," the statement said.

The Bowcock family also extended their condolences to the family and friends of Andrew Crews, who killed himself immediately after shooting Bowcock in the neck.

The shooting at the Peace Arch border crossing, one of Canada's busiest, shut down the border in both directions for most of a day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police investigate a van at the scene of a shooting at the Canadian border crossing in Surrey, B.C. on Tuesday. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Britain looking for spy kids

Apprentice 007s.
British program open to bright 18-year-olds who will undergo technical training and work placements

How's this for a job title — secret agent's apprentice.

The British government is recruiting teenage apprentice spies and codebreakers without university degrees in a bid to deepen the talent pool of its intelligence services for the era of cyber-terorrism and cyber-warfare.

Foreign Secretary William Hague announced the program Thursday in a speech at Bletchley Park, Britain's Second World War code-breaking headquarters.

"Young people are the key to our country's future success, just as they were during the war," Hague said.

"It will be the young innovators of this generation who will help keep our country safe in years to come against threats which are every bit as serious as some of those confronted in the Second World War."

The Foreign Office said the apprenticeship program aims to find up to 100 new recruits for GCHQ — Britain's electronic surveillance agency — and the MI5 and MI6 intelligence services. The idea is to expand recruitment of spies beyond the traditional method of a discreet "tap on the shoulder" at university.

The program will be open to bright 18-year-olds with backgrounds in science, technology, engineering and even computer gaming. They will undergo a two-year course of university classes, technical training and work placements before starting full-time jobs.

High-school students will also be invited to take part in a "national cipher challenge" competition intended to inspire pupils to consider careers in mathematics and cyber-security.

The Foreign Office said the goal was to "harness the expertise of its young people, who have grown up with a world of social media, global connectivity and interactive gaming, to make sure we can tackle the threats and challenges of the 21st century."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This 2009 file photo shows Mike Hillyard, one of the volunteers who rebuilt a replica of the Turing Bombe machine that played a crucial part in cracking the Nazi Enigma Code, standing by the machine at Bletchley Park in Milton Keynes, England. The British government is recruiting apprentice spies and codebreakers without university degrees in a bid to deepen the talent pool of its intelligence services. AKIRA SUEMORI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anti-marijuana ad racist and inaccurate, says Williams

Montel Williams supports legalizing medical marijuana.
DANNY JOHNSTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Talk show host Montel Williams accused an ad against legalizing medical marijuana of resorting to "racism" after the commercial depicted an African-American drug dealer.

Williams, an outspoken supporter of medical marijuana, appeared Thursday at the state capital alongside members of Arkansans for Compassionate Care, which is campaigning for Arkansas' legalization measure on the Nov. 6 ballot. He criticized an ad aired by a coalition of conservative groups that opposes the proposal.

"Offensive is really an understatement. It's the most egregiously racist, false statement you've ever seen in your life," Williams said. "They've (got) people sitting in a picture holding guns, talking about medical marijuana, and of course they happen to be of different colours to make sure you're as irritated and angry as you can be."

Jerry Cox, the president of the Arkansas Family Council and a member of the coalition, denied that the ad was aimed at stoking any kind of racial animus and defended the spot as accurate. Cox noted that the ad also features white actors portraying marijuana users.

"Sure, he wanted to seize on that, but that's not the message we're sending," Cox said. "We're sending a message that this harmful act is going to affect every family in this state."

If passed, the Arkansas measure would allow patients with qualifying conditions to buy marijuana from non-profit dispensaries with a doctor's recommendation. If approved, Arkansas would become the first Southern state to legalize medical marijuana.

Under the proposal, qualifying health conditions would include cancer, glaucoma, HIV, AIDS and Alzheimer's disease. The proposal also would allow qualifying patients or a designated caregiver to grow marijuana if the patient lives more than five miles from a dispensary.

Past efforts to put medical marijuana on the ballot in Arkansas have faltered, though voters in two cities in the state have approved referendums that encourage police to regard arrests for small amounts of marijuana as a low priority.

The proposal faces opposition from law-enforcement groups and the state's top elected officials. Gov. Mike Beebe, a Democrat, has said he's opposed to the measure and is worried about the additional cost to the state.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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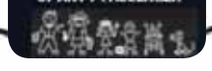

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Ontario judge faces discipline for impatience

Poor judgment.
Thirty-three charges thrown out after prosecutor was late

An Ontario judge who threw out several court cases because he got tired of waiting for a prosecutor to show up has been ordered to appear before a disciplinary panel.

The Ontario Judicial Council says the hearing scheduled for Nov. 26 will address three complaints filed against Justice Howard Chisvin for judicial misconduct.

On July 21, 2011, Chisvin dismissed at least 33 criminal charges against 10 people in a Newmarket court north of Toronto, who were up before him in court to enter pleas or be sentenced.

Chisvin made the call after proceedings resumed following a 20-minute break, finding that the Crown attorney was absent.

He sent word to the prosecutor that if he did not show up within a minute, all remaining cases waiting to be heard that day would be dismissed.

When the Crown did not arrive two minutes later, the trial judge threw out all the cases for want of prosecution.

After eight minutes, the lawyer returned, apologized and explained that he was late because he was reading a presentencing report.

Last March, a three-justice panel with the Ontario Court of Appeal called Chisvin's actions "illegal" and "an abuse of judicial authority."

The panel also said Chisvin had no power to make the order. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Punishment

If Chisvin is found guilty, he could face a variety of penalties that include being:

- Given a warning
- Ordered to take educational classes
- Suspended with or without pay

Refuge for many

Eritrean asylum seekers, one holding an enlargement of a working permit, protest in Tel Aviv, Israel, on Thursday. The migrants rallied against racism and Israel's intention to detain and deport them.
ARIEL SCHALIT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prisoner rights

Mother of prison baby out on bail

One day after protesters called for her release, a woman who gave birth on the floor of an Ottawa jail cell is out from behind bars.

Julie Bilotta, 26, has been granted bail and released from the Ottawa-Carleton Detention Centre.

Advocates for imprisoned women's rights demonstrated Wednesday, demanding an inquiry into Bilotta's treatment.

The Cornwall, Ont., woman birthed a boy Sept. 29 in a segregation cell without the help of a doctor after Bilotta said she screamed for hours. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Terror at home

Minnesotan convicted for recruiting terrorists

A Minneapolis man has been convicted of helping send young men to Somalia to join the al-Qaida-linked terrorist group al-Shabab.

The federal jury on Thursday convicted 46-year-old Mahamud Said Omar on all five counts he faced. He could be sentenced to up to life in prison.

Omar was the first to stand trial in the government's investigation into what it says was the recruiting of more than 20 men. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russian opposition member charged in riot plot

Russia's top investigative agency filed criminal charges Thursday against an opposition leader's assistant, continuing a widespread crackdown on the movement against President Vladimir Putin.

The Investigative Committee said in a statement that Left Front member Konstantin Lebedev has been charged with plotting mass riots and could face a jail term of up to 10 years.

Investigators said 33-year-old Lebedev, who has been in custody since Wednesday, denied the charges and has refused to give evidence. A court sanctioned his arrest Thursday.

On Wednesday, officials interrogated Lebedev's boss, Sergei Udaltsov, who is also a suspect, and searched his home before releasing him on the condition that he not leave Moscow.

Investigators are relying on hidden-camera footage aired earlier this month by a Kremlin-friendly TV channel. The documentary claimed that Udaltsov met with officials from the neighbouring nation of Georgia to raise money, partly from disgraced banker Andrei Borodin, to overthrow Putin's government by sending communists and neo-fascists to seize the Kremlin as well as several Russian cities.

Investigators said that Udaltsov, Lebedev and another leftist activist who remained at large, Leonid Razvozhayev, are suspected of planning to stage mass riots involving the use of firearms, ransacking and arson in Moscow, Kaliningrad, Vladivostok and other cities.

Udaltsov, a shaven-headed communist firebrand who wore a Joseph Stalin T-shirt to his own wedding, has called the documentary "filth" and said the charges are revenge for his political activity. He insisted that the TV footage, in which the figure purported to be him is nearly always out of focus, was doctored.

Both Udaltsov and Givi Targamadze, the senior Georgian lawmaker that Russian officials say is behind the plot, deny ever meeting each other.

"I think that one thing is really evident: The goal to arrest Udaltsov was set, and in order to achieve it this film or program was fabricated," Targamadze, who heads the Georgian parliament's defence and security committee, told The Associated Press on Thursday in the Georgian capital, Tbilisi.

Russian investigators said they had carefully studied the footage and concluded it was genuine. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leftist activist Konstantin Lebedev sits in a defender's cage during a trial in Moscow on Thursday. IVAN SEKRETAREV/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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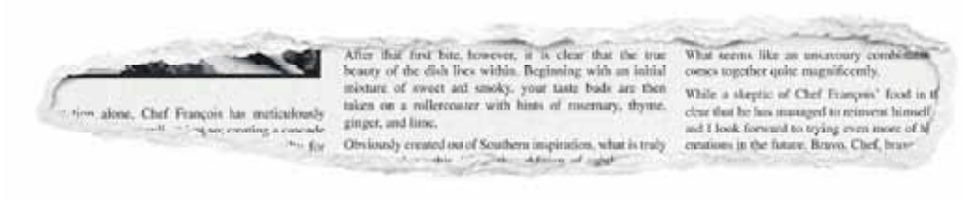
alone, Chef François has meticulously
After that first bite, however, it is clear that the true beauty of the dish lies within. Beginning with an initial mixture of sweet and smoky, your taste buds are then taken on a rollercoaster with hints of rosemary, thyme, ginger, and lime.
Obviously created out of Southern inspiration, what is truly
What seems like an unsavoury combination comes together quite magnificently.
While a skeptic of Chef François' food in th close that he has managed to reinvent himself and I look forward to trying even more of hi creations in the future. Bravo, Chef, brav

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Omnibus budget changes. Big bill tables widespread revisions and reductions

The latest omnibus budget bill from the Harper government makes changes to everything from the Indian Act and the Canadian Labour Code to the Canada Shipping Act.

The bill kills off independent tribunals that examined things such as hazardous materials in the workplace and set the rates for employment insurance premiums, while making workers pay taxes on their employers' contributions to group health and accident insurance plans.

It also sharply reduces project approvals required under the Navigable Waters Protection Act, sets time limits on worker complaints under the Canada Labour Code and makes additional changes to an Environmental Assessment Act that was essentially rewritten by the Conservative government last spring.

It lays out a whole new act for the building of a new bridge from Windsor, Ont., to Detroit, while exempting the project from "a number of federal laws under which permits, approvals or authorizations would normally be required."

The bill — the second of two massive implementation acts based on the March federal budget — contains no surprises, said Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, who angrily accused the opposition of being too lazy to read last spring's federal spending blueprint.

"If you haven't read the budget ... I don't know what you did all summer.... Do your job," he said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Opposition

In response to Finance Minister Jim Flaherty's comments, citing the words of a young Stephen Harper, opposition MPs responded that the sprawling omnibus bill is exactly what's preventing them from doing their job — examining proposed legislation in detail and depth.

Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty speaks during question period in the House of Commons in Ottawa, Thursday. The minister's contentious omnibus budget bill is the focus of intense criticism from the opposition. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Calgary couple who survived Costa Concordia wreck 'hope for justice'

Finding peace after trauma. Passenger who opted to swim for safety rather than abandon her husband awaits results of inquiry

JEREMY NOLAIS
Metro in Calgary

Survival was only the beginning.

That's the working title of a book Andrea Davis is penning about her ordeal aboard the ill-fated Costa Concordia cruise ship, and the subsequent struggle upon returning home to Calgary.

Davis and her husband, Laurence, had only just ordered a bottle of wine at a dining hall aboard the massive vessel when it smashed into rocks off the Tuscan island of Giglio on Jan. 13.

With water pouring into the ship, Davis refused to separate from her husband and take one remaining seat aboard a lifeboat. Instead, the couple swam for shore together, spending more than 20 minutes in frigid water.

Back at home, Davis was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder.

In July, the couple returned to the island for the first time since the wreck to view the ship, still overturned at sea, and meet with some of the locals who embraced them with open arms.

"I knew that this was a medical prescription for me, something I needed to do ... to walk across the rocks, to see the path that we had climbed through on that dark and scary night, to see how far we were from land, to see the sunken ship and this horrific, rested memorial of our trauma," she said.

The Davises have been watching closely as an inquiry into the Concordia wreck and the actions of Capt. Francesco Schettino, who could stand trial for multiple counts of manslaughter and abandoning ship, got underway this week.

"We hope for justice ... everyone in this world deserves justice," Davis said.

Thirty-two people died in the Costa Concordia tragedy.

Andrea Davis plants a kiss on her grandson after arriving at Calgary International Airport in January, days after surviving the Costa Concordia shipwreck. METRO FILE

In it together

"They had one spot (on the lifeboat) and they asked Andrea if she wanted to come in, and we looked at each other and decided we're in this together. 'There's no way we're separating.'"

Costa Concordia shipwreck survivor Laurence Davis.
After about a 20-minute swim in frigid water, Davis and his wife, Andrea, made it to shore with minor scrapes.

Graham James

Crown seeks to impose harsher sentence on coach

A hearing has been set in Manitoba's Court of Appeal for the Crown's attempt to get a harsher sentence for disgraced junior hockey coach Graham James.

Dec. 3 has been set aside for arguments over the two-year sentence given to James for sexually abusing retired NHL star Theo Fleury and his cousin, Todd Holt, when they were teenage players in the Western Hockey League. The sentence last March prompted outrage from James' victims.

The Crown had asked for a six-year term, and says the judge erred by placing too much emphasis on James' previous time behind bars. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charbonneau hearings

Engineer got $600K in kickbacks

A retired City of Montreal engineer says he collected more than $600,000 in cash kickbacks from construction companies over nearly 20 years.

Gilles Surprenant took the stand at the Charbonneau Commission on Thursday, following eight days of headline-grabbing testimony by ex-construction boss Lino Zambito.

Zambito alleged that Surprenant, a chief city planner for many years who prepared plans and budgets for public-works projects, skimmed one per cent for himself on certain contracts.

Surprenant admitted his first "cut" was an envelope containing $3,000 or $4,000.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Generation being stolen by bullies, says Nova Scotia victim

Bullying victim Toni Nicholas says Amanda Todd's suicide gave her the push she needed to start raising awareness. JEFF HARPER/METRO IN HALIFAX

On Dec. 16, 2010, 12-year-old Toni Nicholas snapped.

She downed 80 extra-strength Tylenol and lay on her bed, hoping to die.

She wouldn't have woken up, said the doctor who saved her life, if it wasn't for her mother checking up on her one last time before bed.

Bullying was the cause.

Singled out by her Grade 3 teacher for her razor-sharp intellect, she soon became the subject of endless physical and emotional torment.

She received constant death threats. One altercation left her with a broken foot.

More than two years later, after dozens of suicide attempts and years of psychiatric care, Nicholas is better.

The Dartmouth, N.S., teen, now 14 years old, is determined to spare as many youths as she can from having to go through her nightmare.

"I'm sick of seeing my generation being stolen from under my feet," said Nicholas.

Amanda Todd's tragic suicide last week after relentless bullying was the last straw.

"Her death gave me the extra push because now people are starting to pay attention. We need change. It has to start with our generation."

She'll be leading a candlelight service for Todd and the countless other victims of bullying on Oct. 28.

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Unwelcome. Northern Ireland boils with opening of first abortion clinic

A protester outside the Marie Stopes clinic in Belfast, Thursday. PETER MORRISON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The first abortion clinic on the island of Ireland opened Thursday in downtown Belfast, unleashing angry protests on the street and uniting Catholic and Protestant politicians in calls to investigate the new facility.

The clinic, run by the British family-planning charity Marie Stopes, will be permitted to provide abortions only in exceptional circumstances to women less than nine weeks pregnant.

But the opening caught Northern Ireland's socially conservative politicians off guard, and they vowed to launch an investigation into how the clinic operates.

Only one of Northern Ireland's 108 legislators, Anna Lo, has expressed support for the clinic.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lethal fungus. Meningitis outbreak in U.S. linked to tainted steroid shots

The fungus found in tainted steroid shots matches the one blamed in the meningitis outbreak that has killed 20 people in the U.S., federal health officials said Thursday.

The match confirms the link between the outbreak and the maker of the steroids, New England Compounding Center of Framingham, Mass. Officials previously said they found fungus in more than 50 unopened vials from the company, but needed more tests to determine the kind of fungus.

The specialty pharmacy has been at the centre of a federal and state investigation into more than 250 fungal meningitis cases. The death toll rose Thursday to 20.

The victims in the outbreak had all received steroid shots made by the pharmacy, mostly to treat back pain. The company last month recalled three lots of the steroid made since May. It later shut down operations and recalled all the medicines it makes.

The fungus was found in one steroid batch made in August, according to the Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas

Woman allegedly killed to steal child

Texas prosecutors will seek the death penalty against a woman accused of killing a mother and abducting her newborn son earlier this year outside a clinic, authorities said Thursday.

Investigators believe Verna McClain, 31, was desperate for a baby to pass off as her own after suffering a miscarriage. She is facing a charge of capital murder for allegedly shooting Kala Golden-Schuchardt outside a pediatric clinic in Houston and taking her days-old son. The baby was found safe with a relative of McClain. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dirty dealings

Gitmo filth stalls Sept. 11 hearing

The U.S. navy is promising to clean up offices at the Guantanamo Bay navy base that defence lawyers say are dangerously contaminated with rat droppings and mould.

Attorneys for some of the five prisoners charged in the Sept. 11 attacks have complained their offices are so contaminated that lawyers and paralegal have repeatedly suffered respiratory ailments. Some have required medical treatment at the tropical base. The issue has repeatedly interrupted this week's pretrial hearing in the Sept. 11 case.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Edith Windsor, whose suit against the U.S. government led to Thursday's decision against the Defense of Marriage Act, is interviewed at the offices of the New York Civil Liberties Union on Oct. 18. She sued in 2010, having been told to pay $363,053 US in federal estate tax after her same-sex partner of 44 years died in 2009. RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. court strikes down marriage law

Gay rights. Federal court calls the Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutional

From the ruling

"Homosexuals are not in a position to adequately protect themselves from the discriminatory wishes of the majoritarian public."

Judge Dennis Jacobs in his written decision, commenting on a long history of oppression

Saying the gay population has "suffered a history of discrimination," a divided federal appeals court in Manhattan ruled Thursday that a federal law defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman was unconstitutional, adding fuel to an issue expected to reach the U.S. Supreme Court soon.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals seemed interested in adding its voice to several other rulings already at the high court's doorstep by issuing its 2-to-1 decision only three weeks after hearing arguments on a lower-court judge's findings that the 1996 law was unconstitutional.

In a majority opinion written by Judge Dennis Jacobs, the 2nd Circuit, like a federal appeals court in Boston before it, found no reason the Defense of Marriage Act could be used to deny benefits to married gay couples.

The 2nd Circuit said the law's "classification of same-sex spouses was not substantially related to an important government interest" and thus violated the equal-protection clause of the Constitution.

Judge Chester J. Straub dissented, saying that if the government was to change its understanding of marriage, "I believe it is for the American people to do so."

"Courts should not intervene where there is a robust political debate because doing so poisons the political well, imposing a destructive anti-majoritarian constitutional ruling on a vigorous debate," he said.

The government defended the federal law until President Barack Obama and Attorney General Eric Holder in early 2011 directed attorneys to stop doing so. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Irish judge rules adoption law discriminatory

Unmarried and same-sex couples in Northern Ireland should be allowed to adopt children, a Belfast judge ruled Thursday, rejecting a 1987 adoption law that discriminates against both groups.

Gay-rights activists praised the ruling in favour of a lawsuit pursued by the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission. But Health Minister Edwin Poots, an evangelical Protestant opposed to gay partnerships, said the government would appeal.

"It is my intention to urgently appeal this judgment and I am taking this action with a heavy heart," said Poots, who called the ruling against the best interests of children.

Belfast High Court Justice Seamus Treacy ruled the law clearly violated European human-rights laws on privacy and discrimination.

Other parts of the United Kingdom already permit gay and unmarried heterosexual couples to adopt children. But Northern Ireland's law restricts applicants to married couples.

Northern Ireland's chief commissioner for human rights, Michael O'Flaherty, said that the successful lawsuit "sought to protect the best interests of the child. Given the high numbers of children in care, who need a family in Northern Ireland, the importance of this case in widening the pool of prospective parents cannot be overstated."

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Washington

Evacuation at presidential daughters' school

The D.C. private school attended by the daughters of President Barack Obama says it was briefly evacuated after it received a phone call that it considered suspicious. Sidwell Friends said in a message on its website Thursday afternoon that students and teachers returned to class after law enforcement determined there was no threat.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Connecticut

A bad sign

An 80-year-old U.S. woman has been arrested after tearing down political signs showing an image of President Barack Obama with an Adolf Hitler-style moustache. Nancy Lack tells WVIT-TV she was offended and took down three posters that were hung last week near the post office. Workers for frequent presidential candidate Lyndon LaRouche, who were putting up the signs, called police. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama was potential target in foiled terror plot: Source

Terror sting. Undercover agent posing as jihadist intervenes with FBI team after 21-year-old exposes plan to blow up the Federal Reserve

A Bangladeshi man snared in an FBI terror sting considered targeting U.S. President Barack Obama before settling on a car-bomb attack on the Federal Reserve in New York City, a law-enforcement official told The Associated Press on Thursday.

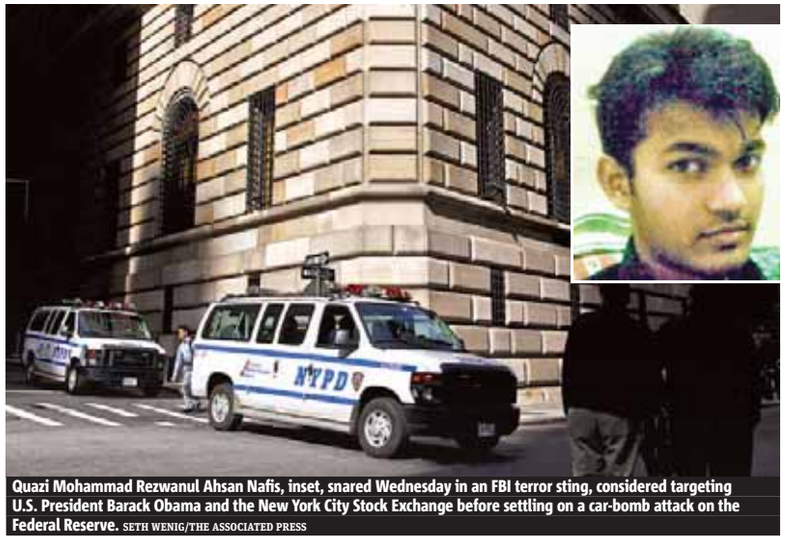
The official, who was not authorized to speak publicly about the investigation and talked to the AP on condition of anonymity, stressed that the suspect never got beyond the discussion stage.

In a September meeting with an undercover agent posing as a fellow jihadist, Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis explained he chose the Federal Reserve as his car-bomb target "for operational reasons," according to a criminal complaint. Nafis also indicated he knew that choice would "cause a large number of civilian casualties, including women and children," the complaint said. He had also considered the New York Stock Exchange as a target.

The bomb was phoney, but authorities alleged that Nafis's admiration of Osama bin Laden and aspirations for martyrdom were not.

FBI agents grabbed the 21-year-old Nafis — armed with a cellphone he believed was rigged as a detonator — after he made several attempts to blow up a fake 1,000-pound bomb inside a vehicle parked next to the Federal Reserve Wednesday in lower Manhattan, the complaint said.

Nafis is a banker's son from a middle-class neighbourhood, and family members said Thursday that they were stunned by his arrest.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis, inset, snared Wednesday in an FBI terror sting, considered targeting U.S. President Barack Obama and the New York City Stock Exchange before settling on a car-bomb attack on the Federal Reserve. SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Charges

- Nafis appeared in federal court in Brooklyn on Wednesday to face charges of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and attempting to provide material support to al-Qaida. Wearing a brown T-shirt and black jeans, he was ordered held without bail and did not enter a plea. His defence attorney had no comment outside court.

Family in a state of disbelief over Nafis's alleged bomb ploy

Just a few hours before he was arrested in an FBI sting operation, a Bangladeshi man accused of trying to blow up New York's Federal Reserve building calmly spoke via Skype with his parents back home and updated them on his studies, his family told The Associated Press.

They were stunned Thursday morning to find out that the banker's son from a middle-class Dhaka neighbourhood was accused of trying to carry out a terror attack. They denied he could have been involved.

"My son couldn't have done it," his father, Quazi Ahsanullah, said weeping.

"My brother may have been a victim of a conspiracy," said Fariel Bilkis.

The FBI arrested 21-year-old Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis on Wednesday after he tried to detonate a fake 1,000-pound (454-kilogram) car bomb, according to a criminal complaint.

Prosecutors said Nafis travelled to the U.S. on a student visa in January to carry out an attack.

Hours after his arrest, Bangladeshi detectives were at his family's three-story home in the Jatrabari neighbourhood in south Dhaka.

"We are just collecting details about Nafis from his family," one officer said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Nafis's family said he was incapable of such actions and he went to America to study business administration, not to carry out any attack.

Nafis was so timid, he couldn't even venture out onto the roof alone, his father said. "He used to take someone to go the roof at night. I can't believe he could be part of it (the plot).

"He is very gentle and devoted to his studies," he added, pointing to Nafis's time studying at the private North South University in Dhaka.

However, Belal Ahmed, a spokesman for the university, said Nafis was a terrible student who was put on probation and threatened with expulsion if he didn't bring his grades up. Nafis eventually just stopped coming to school, Ahmed said.

Ahsanullah said his son convinced him to send him to America to study, arguing that with a U.S. degree he had a better chance at success in Bangladesh.

Quoted

"My brother told my mother that he was doing well in studies in the U.S. and was transferring to a college in New York."
Quazi Mohammad Rezwanul Ahsan Nafis's sister

"I spent all my savings to send him to America," he said.

Nafis attended Southeast Missouri State University during the spring semester, which ended in May, in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in cybersecurity, university spokeswoman Ann Hayes said. He requested a transfer of his records in July and the university complied, Hayes said, though she couldn't say where the records were sent.

"My brother told my mother that he was doing well in studies in the U.S. and was transferring to a college in New York," said his sister.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Giant elk relocated away from hunters

Rancher feared amorous nature.
Animal taken away from B.C. ranch and close relationship with cow

A bull elk stands in a field with cows at 100 Mile Ranch in B.C.
CONTRIBUTED/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Somewhere east of this B.C. community wanders an enormous bull elk, stripped of its crown of six-point antlers and a misplaced attraction for one of Greg Messner's cows.

The elk, a loner that had been turning up at the century-old 100 Mile Ranch to check out Messner's herd for three years, was relocated earlier this month for its own safety and for the probity of the cow. One of Messner's cows was also in heat and the pair became a freakish but constant spectacle.

This year, the beast decided to stay a while and ended up mingling in the herd for about two months during its rutting season.

Messner estimated the elk at about six feet tall and four feet wide and weighing about half a tonne.

The ranch is bordered by the highway and cars were stopping as passengers tried to get a look at the amorous ungulate, which from time to time would hop from one side of the pasture fence to the other.

Messner said the final straw was when hunters turned up, the lure of a six-point rack potentially dangerously enticing.

"Trucks were pulling over and people were watching this poor elk through the scope of their gun and people were doing U-turns on the highway. It was becoming a real dangerous situation."

The elk was then loaded into a truck and taken about 20 kilometres out of town, towards the mountains.

"I kind of think he will be back next year," said Messner. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"He had a huge rack, but he was too well-endowed by chromosomes."
Greg Messner, ranch owner

Mississippi community weathers the storm

Tin roofing from a neighbour's shed and concrete steps are all that remain at the site of Gladys Berry's mobile home in Anguilla, Miss., Thursday. The mobile home was tossed about 30 feet from its secured site following a night and early morning of severe weather. ROGELIO V. SOLIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dark Knight

Impersonator pleads not guilty

A man charged with obstructing the police while dressed as Batman has pleaded not guilty.

State troopers arrested 33-year-old Mark Wayne Williams on Sept. 29 because he wouldn't leave them alone while they searched for a driver who had fled an accident.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prostitution scandal

Zumba instructor facing charges

Quiet little Kennebunk, a New England town of beaches and sea captain's mansions, has been thrust into the media spotlight after a 29-year-old Zumba instructor was charged this month with engaging in prostitution in her dance studio and in an office across the street.

The scandal is ensnaring some prominent men from around the region and has forced the resignation of a long-time high school hockey coach.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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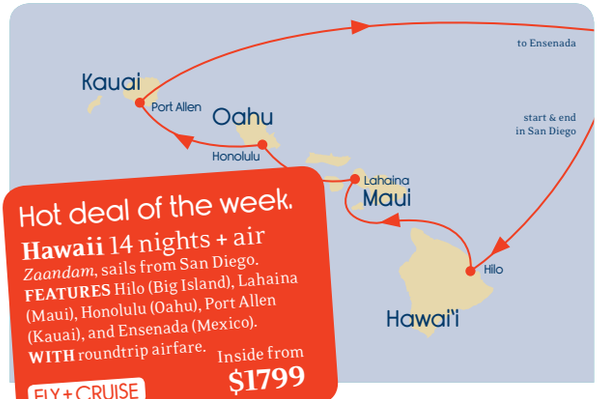

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Colombia

Peace talks in Oslo mark the first in 10 years

Colombia's first peace talks in a decade with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, were inaugurated half a world away on Thursday with a demonstration of just how differently the two sides view the nearly half-century-old conflict.

The Oslo talks were brief, symbolic, largely perfunctory and held at a secret venue. They lasted seven hours and were followed by word that substantive talks will begin Nov. 15 in the Cuban capital of Havana and will first tackle "comprehensive agrarian development."

The government's lead negotiator, Humberto de la Calle, sought to set a businesslike, cordial tone in brief remarks at a joint news conference. Colombia is a nation of deep social inequalities and rampant human-rights violations. It leads the world in union-leader killings and has hundreds of thousands of internally displaced people.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mars rover

Martian soil has NASA wondering

NASA's Mars rover Curiosity has dug up a mini-mystery for scientists — an odd white fleck that sticks out like a beacon in the reddish soil.

It looks out of place, but scientists said Thursday that it's probably just a different-hued bit of Martian soil. Curiosity will use its camera and instruments to try to learn more about what it is.

It is only one millimetre in size and was spotted after the rover used its mechanical scoop to dig up some dust.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A small pit created by NASA's Mars rover Curiosity. NASA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Some restaurants asking diners to cut phone use

Taking on the digital crowd. Owners split over the presence of cellphones in their restaurants

The digital divide is wider than ever between diners who talk, tweet and snap pictures mid-meal and those who wish they'd just shut up, shut down and be present.

Caught at the centre of the discord are restaurant owners and chefs, who must walk the careful line of good customer service for both those who dine under the influence of smartphones, and those who won't. But as the devices have morphed into an unrelenting appendage for texting, photography and games, more restaurateurs are challenged to keep the peace.

Owners who once relied mostly on "No Cellphones, Please" signs are increasingly experimenting with everything from penalties for using phones, discounts for not and outright bans on photography.

"There's no place to get away from the chatter," said Julie Liberty of Miami, who started the Facebook page "Ban Cell Phones From Restaurants" earlier this year. "Everything has a soundtrack, including when you go into the ladies room. That's just not right."

Some restaurateurs go with the digital flow. Sarabeth Levine, of New York City-based Sarabeth's, said she's perfectly fine with people chatting, playing games or even taking pictures. It's free advertising, after all.

"I'm happy to have our customers," Levine said. "They come, they tweet, they Facebook, they bring their children. It's high energy to begin with. I mean, people are noisy even in the way they speak today."

Others take a middle ground, like the high-end Washington, D.C., restaurant Rogue 24, where hostesses politely tell guests that if they do take pictures, please do so without a distracting flash.

"I mean, you can't fight it," said owner R. J. Cooper. "Why fight a losing battle?"

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A sign at the Hamilton Street Café advises customers about the cellphone policy at the restaurant in Albany, N.Y. MIKE GROLL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Scout files made public

'Perversion files'. Thousands of pages of documented sex-abuse allegations involving the U.S. Boy Scouts were released Thursday

The Boy Scouts of America released decades of so-called "perversion files" Thursday, showing how a range of authorities — from police to pastors — quietly allowed scoutmasters and others accused of molesting children to go free.

In many instances — more than a third, according to the Scouts' own count — police weren't told about the reports of abuse. And even when they were, sometimes local law enforcement did nothing, seeking to protect Scouting's reputation.

The confidential papers, released by order of the Oregon Supreme Court, are a window on a much larger collection of documents the Boy Scouts began collecting soon after their founding in 1910. The files contain details about proven molesters but also unsubstantiated allegations.

At a news conference, Portland attorney Kelly Clark criticized the Boy Scouts for their continuing legal battles to keep the full collection of files secret.

"You do not keep secrets hidden about dangers to children," said Clark, who in 2010 won a landmark lawsuit against the Boy Scouts on behalf of a plaintiff who was molested by an assistant scoutmaster in the 1980s.

In a statement on Thursday, Scouts spokesman Deron Smith said, "There is nothing more important than the safety of our Scouts." Smith said there have been times when Scouts' responses to sex-abuse allegations were "plainly insufficient, inappropriate, or wrong," and the organization extends its "deepest and sincere apologies to victims and their families."

The Scouts in September said they would look into past cases to see whether there were times when abusers should have been reported to police.

The files released Thursday were collected between 1959 and 1985, with a handful of others from later years. Some had been released previously, but others were made public for the first time.

Kelly Clark speaks at a news conference in this 2010 file photo.
RICK BOWMER /THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In one case from the files, a distraught mother walked into a Louisiana sheriff's office in 1965 and said a 31-year-old scoutmaster had raped one of her sons and molested two others.

Six days later, the scoutmaster sat down in front of a microphone in the same station and confessed: He admitted to raping a 17-year-old boy on a camping trip and otherwise sexually molesting two other boys. The victims corroborated his confession.

"They just occurred," the scoutmaster said.

Seven days later, the decision was made not to pursue charges against him.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Apology. Dunham takes back Homolka tweet that 'crossed that line'

Girls star Lena Dunham is apologizing for making a Paul Bernardo joke on Twitter that drew immediate fire from Canadian fans.

The 26-year-old HBO phenom suggested she and her celebrity friends dress up as Bernardo, Karla Homolka and one of their victims for Halloween.

She said in a tweet to fellow comics Mindy Kaling and B.J. Novak: "You guys go as killer Canadian couple Paul Bernardo & Karla Homolka. I'll be her sister they murdered."

Fans complained online and even the lawyer for Bernardo's victims weighed in when contacted by a Toronto reporter, saying Dunham "crossed that line."

Dunham is now apologizing, saying in a follow-up tweet: "Obviously didn't understand what a painful part of the Canadian identity the Bernardo/Homolka case was."

Lena Dunham
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dunham has 387,579 followers on Twitter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fame Daddy

Sperm-bank hoax

A British TV network says it was duped by an actor pretending to be the chief of celebrity sperm bank Fame Daddy. In an interview, the man said his company would match women with famous sperm donors.

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Fear not mama, we're just trying to help

Baby elephant rescue. Kenyan national park video goes viral — with good reason

In this Oct. 8, video image, Vicki Fishlock of the Amboseli Trust for Elephants is seen in the rear-view mirror as a mother elephant stands by her baby who is stuck in a hole at Kenya's Amboseli National Park. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

How do you pull a baby elephant out of a deep, muddy hole? A rope and a Land Rover. Then the payoff: A frantic baby elephant sprint to mom.

A heartwarming video of the rescue of a baby elephant in a Kenyan national park that lies in the shadow of Mount Kilimanjaro gained a mass of viewers on Thursday. The video shows the rescuers' potentially dangerous faceoff with the mother elephant and their struggle to get her calf out of a 1.5-metre hole.

Vicki Fishlock of the Amboseli Trust for Elephants faced down the mother with her Land Rover, and made a high-pitched aye-aye-aye call to drive the mother off. Thirty muddy minutes later, after two men struggled to get a rope around the eight-month-old calf, Fishlock put her SUV in reverse and pulled the animal out.

"Relief! Rescues where family members are around are stressful, and I'm always happy when everyone is safely back in the cars." Fishlock said.

The hole, a man-made well with three metres of water in it dug by the Masai tribesmen, underscores the increasing problem of human-animal conflict. The baby elephant was too small to crawl out on its own and would have died without the help of rescuers. If the elephant dies, it ruins the well, angering the Masai who live nearby.

The uplifting conclusion to the rescue video shows the baby sprinting to reunite with its family. Despite the confrontation, Fishlock thinks the mother understood in the end that humans were only trying to help. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

See for yourself

Visit metronews.ca to watch the video of the rescue.

Getting their feet wet as political activists

Jacquie Ayala, left, and Amanda Lawrence stand in a flooded street as they call on U.S. presidential candidates to talk about their plans to fight climate change on Thursday in Miami Beach, Fla. JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES

Havana. Amidst poor-health rumours, Cuba publishes letters from Fidel Castro

Cuban news media on Thursday published the first new writing in months from retired Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

The letter, which was dated Wednesday, comes in the wake of rumours that prompted relatives in both Cuba and Miami to deny that the health of the 86-year-old ex-president was critical.

Castro has not been seen in public since video images showed him greeting a visiting Pope Benedict XVI in late March, and the last of his essays known as Reflections was published June 19.

In the letter published by the Communist Party daily Granma, Castro congratulated students of a Cuban medical institute on its 50th anniversary and recalled how just days after it opened in 1962, it was converted into an anti-aircraft installation during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Castro, whose revolution seized power in Cuba in 1959, left office in 2006 due to a life-threatening intestinal condition. His younger brother Raul now serves as president.

But even in retirement and largely out of sight, he continues to cast a long shadow. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Astral. BCE wants Ottawa to overturn CRTC decision

BCE Inc. will call on the federal Cabinet to intervene after the broadcast regulator gave an unequivocal thumbs down to its takeover of Astral Media on Thursday, declaring in no uncertain terms the $3.4-billion deal was not good for Canadians.

The surprise decision by the CRTC was announced after stock markets closed and marked the first major ruling for newly installed Commissioner Jean-Pierre Blais.

Not only did Blais, who took over in late June, turn down one of the biggest takeovers ever submitted to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, he left little doubt about where he stood, or how he would respond should BCE return with a modified but essentially similar proposal.

"This transaction would have resulted in an unprecedented level of concentration in the Canadian marketplace and we had grave concerns that BCE would be able to use its market power in an unfair manner and engage in uncompetitive behaviour," he said.

Bell said late Thursday that it was "shocked" and "appalled" by the decision, adding that it will ask the federal Cabinet to "issue direction to CRTC to follow its own regulatory policy."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"This is a defining moment for the CRTC. They have stared at Canada's largest corporation and one of the largest deals in Canada and said 'No.'"

Telecom analyst Iain Grant, noting the CRTC hasn't delivered a ruling of this magnitude since 1992, when it approved competition for long-distance calling

South Africa mining strikes take toll on output

Miners sing during their strike at the AngloGold Ashanti Mine in Fochville, near Johannesburg, South Africa, on Thursday. Strike action in gold and platinum mines cost the country about 4.5 billion rand (more than $510 million US) in lost output through mid-September, President Jacob Zuma told a meeting of businessmen in Johannesburg last week. THEMBA HADEBE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Signs of recovery

China's economic slide levels out

China's worst slump since the global financial crisis levelled out in the latest quarter and retail sales picked up in a sign an economic rebound is taking shape, adding to hopes for a global recovery.

The world's second-largest economy grew 7.4 per cent from the year before in the three months ending in September, data showed Thursday. That was slower than the second quarter's 7.6 per cent growth but the decline was much gentler than in earlier quarters.

Economists also pointed to quarter-on-quarter growth of 2.2 per cent, the biggest such gain in a year, as a sign of recovery.

"This confirms that the economy is rebounding," said Dariusz Kowalczyk, senior economist for Credit Agricole CIB in Hong Kong. "There is no room and no need for further major stimulus."

The Chinese improvement came after unexpectedly strong U.S. housing starts boosted confidence that the world's biggest economy is mending after five years in the doldrums. The U.S. Commerce Department said Wednesday that builders started construction on new single-family houses and apartments at the fastest pace in more than four years.

The U.S. and Chinese numbers are rare good news for the world economy, which has slowed as Europe's chronic debt crisis worsened and the American economy stagnated.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Preparing for sabbaticals takes planning, discipline

Personal finances. It's not uncommon to start budgeting years ahead of taking time off work

Whether it is taking time off to work for a charity, going back to school or travelling the world, preparing for a sabbatical is no different than planning for any other financial goal.

Just hoping won't get the job done. What's needed is to create a realistic approach with a financial planner and then showing the discipline to stick with it.

Start by asking yourself how much money are you going to need, then work backwards to figure out how long it will take to get there.

For those taking as much as a year away from work, it's not uncommon to start planning years in advance.

Crystal Wong, senior regional manager for TD Waterhouse financial planning in Calgary, suggests approaching it like a diet — don't make it too austere or you won't stick with it.

While saving for a sabbatical might mean putting off buying new clothes, delaying upgrading to the latest electronic gadget and fewer dinners out, it doesn't mean returning to a student diet of instant noodles.

"You don't want to entirely deny yourself some of these luxuries or what we perceive as luxuries," Wong said.

"You can't just cut everything out of your diet that you love because then you're entirely regretting all of your dieting decisions and that's why diets never work."

But for those who don't already have a written budget, start by creating one, Wong advises.

"Once you've educated yourself as to where your funds are going, then you can take a look to see what can you stop spending your money on."

For financial advisers, the task then is working with clients to decide the difference between needs and wants.

"Is there anything we can cut away from their current budget to reduce actual expenses on a monthly basis?"

There may also be ways to generate at least some income while off work. Those planning an extended trip may be able to rent or sublet to at least partially offset mortgage, rent and other housing costs.

Some workplaces offer provisions for taking time away and may hold an employee's job whether he or she is taking time off for personal projects or upgrading their education. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"Once you've educated yourself as to where your funds are going, then you can take a look to see what you can stop spending your money on."

Crystal Wong, senior regional manager for TD Waterhouse financial planning in Calgary

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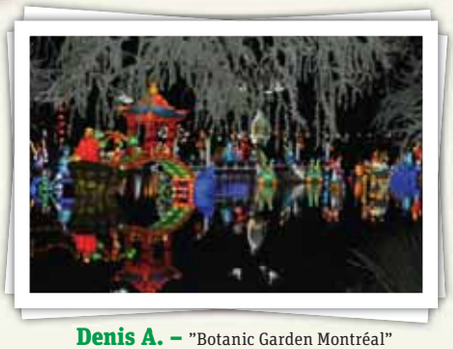
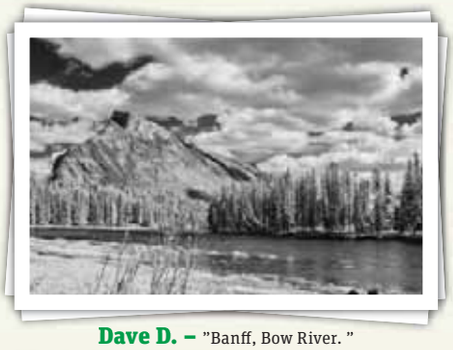
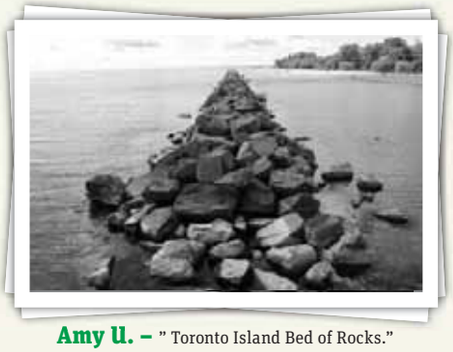


Denis A. – "Botanic Garden Montréal"



Dave D. – "Banff, Bow River. "



Amy U. – " Toronto Island Bed of Rocks."

metro PHOTO CHALLENGE

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Arbiters of cool

U.K. appeal court agrees that iPad is hipper than Samsung tablet

Britain's Court of Appeal has affirmed a lower court ruling that Samsung's Galaxy tablet computer is "not as cool" as Apple's iPad and therefore doesn't infringe Apple's rights.

The issue in the case was whether Samsung infringed on the design that Apple registered in 2004.

The lower court in July had declared Samsung's Galaxy computers "do not have the same understated and extreme simplicity which is possessed by the Apple design. They are not as cool."

In their ruling Thursday, all three justices who heard the appeal ordered Apple to publicize the court rulings to make sure consumers are not biased against Samsung.

Judge Robin Jacob wrote in the unanimous opinion: "The acknowledgement must come from the horse's mouth. Nothing short of that will be sure to do the job completely."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR
101.53¢
(-0.72¢)

TSX
12,466.12 (+4.87)

OIL
$92.10 US (-2¢)

GOLD
$1,744.70 US (-$8.30)

Natural gas: $3.52 US (+ 5¢)
Dow Jones: 13,548.94 (-8.06)

Another one down: Newsweek will end print run on Dec. 31

Publishing. Venerable news mag is switching to digital format, with staff cuts expected

In this file photo, pedestrians walk past the Newsweek building in New York. Newsweek announced Thursday that its print edition will be replaced by an all-digital format. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Newsweek will end its print publication after 80 years and shift to an all-digital format in early 2013.

Its last U.S. print edition will be its Dec. 31 issue. The paper version of Newsweek is the latest casualty of a changing world where readers get more of their information from websites, tablets and smartphones. It's also an environment in which advertisers are looking for less expensive alternatives online.

Newsweeklies have been in an especially tough spot at a time when people don't want to wait a week to read commentary and news digests of big stories, given a flood of instant content available online.

The announcement of the change was made Thursday by Tina Brown, editor-in-chief and founder of the Newsweek Daily Beast Co, and Baba Shetty, its CEO. Job cuts are expected.

"In our judgment, we have reached a tipping point at which we can most efficiently and effectively reach our readers in all-digital format," Brown and Shetty said on the Daily Beast website.

Newsweek's decision does not come as a surprise. Barry Diller, the head of the company that owns Newsweek, announced in July that the publication was examining its future as a weekly print magazine. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chinese wind-farm firm accuses White House of discrimination

The Chinese company suing President Barack Obama for blocking its planned wind farm projects in Oregon accused the U.S. leader and his government of discrimination Thursday and warned that the case would deter Chinese investment in the United States.

Last month, Obama blocked Ralls Corp.'s plan to build four wind farms near a U.S. navy base, after the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States concluded it posed security risks.

It was the first time a U.S. president stepped in to halt such a foreign business deal for national security reasons since 1990, when President George H.W. Bush scuttled the sale of a manufacturer to a Chinese agency.

U.S. election issue

- The case hands Obama the chance to appear tough on Chinese interests during an election campaign in which he and Republican challenger Mitt Romney have invoked China as a villain in their arguments about revitalizing the U.S. economy.

Chinese construction machinery giant Sany denied that the project posed security risks and said U.S. officials were discriminating against the company because it was Chinese.

It filed a lawsuit against the U.S. government last month and added Obama's name as a defendant later. U.S. officials have said the case has no merit and that they will "vigorously" defend against it.

The CEO of affiliated company Ralls Corp., Wu Jialiang, said at a Beijing news conference Thursday that China's government could retaliate against American companies and that Sany "would never do anything that threatens U.S. national security."

Sany said Ralls purchased the wind-farm project from a Greek electricity-grid company with the development already approved and permits in hand.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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14kt scrap gold, per gram	$26.77	$28.42
1 oz. Recognized Gold Bar	$1,629.37	$1,719.19
1 oz. Gold Maple Leaf Coin	$1,674.54	$1,729.99
Sterling Silver, per Gram	$0.67	$0.78
Silver Canadian Coins from 1966 and earlier, per $1 face value	$16.16	$17.80

Prices in this ad based on gold @ U$1,770.21 and silver @ U$34.51 and a USD/CAD exchange rate of 0.9744 on September 19, 2012, the day this ad was created.

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1889 10¢	$350.00 and up
1921 5¢	$4,000.00 and up
1923 1¢	$14.00 and up

Silver Coins *Per $1.00 Face Value*

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Canada 1967	$13.88
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USA 1964 and older	$20.60

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SPACE JUMP IS PRETTY DOPE

THE LIST
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Worried that you've missed the week's big news and you're feeling inadequate around the water cooler? Fear not! You've come to the right place: The Metro List, where the news lives.

1 **Felix Baumgartner.** I double-dog dare ya to climb 38 kilometres in a balloon, open the hatch and then jump out. No problem, says the Austrian daredevil, who broke the sound barrier while he was at it. Then he opened his parachute and hit the ground walking. Baumgartner says his daredevil days are done, but wasn't it another Austrian guy who said, "I'll be back"?

2 **On the other hand.** Lance Armstrong won't work in this town — or any other — again. His main sponsor, Nike, abandoned him after the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency released testimony from 11 of his former teammates, who claimed they helped him ride to seven tainted Tour de France victories. But Nike still endorses Michael Vick and Kobe Bryant, a dog killer and a man who was once accused of rape, respectively. Oh well, at least they didn't take banned substances to give themselves an unfair advantage ... right?

3 **The saddest story.** Teenager Amanda Todd went looking for love in all the wrong places, i.e. the Internet, and was hounded by the fallout until she killed herself. Before she did, she recorded a haunting video and released it on … the Internet, possibly hoping for some kind of cyber-vindication. You'd like to think her tormentors learned their lesson, but some were still online bullying her memory this week. There's enough bitter irony in this one story to last a lifetime.

4 **Hot enough for you?** By you, I mean climate-change denier, you. September was the hottest ever. In the world. If that's not enough, it was the 331st straight month with above-average temperatures. Anyone who continues to think this global-warming stuff is a hoax reminds me of that lobster sitting in a nice warm bath, and he's starting to turn pink.

5 **Rock 'em sock 'em NHL labour negotiations.** The NHL offers to share revenue 50-50 with the players, but the boys are still young enough to be able to read the fine print on the offer, so this thing ain't settled yet. But at least they're getting down to it. Timing is interesting. For most of the players, this is their first week without a paycheque. Whoa, dude.

6 **Then there's this elk.** This is not a joke. We repeat, this is not a joke. An elk has spent the last three years mooning (moo-ing?) over a herd of cows in the B.C. Interior. This year, well, he leapt the fence. Conservation officers caught him, tranquilized him and — the final indignity — sawed off his six-point antlers (safety measure), then let him go, far from the madding cows.

Felix Baumgartner, of Austria, jumps out of his capsule during his final manned flight last Sunday. The death-defying jump from a balloon 38 kilometres above Earth yielded important information about the punishing effects of extreme speed and altitude on the human body — insights that could inform space development. RED BULL STRATOS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Penguin picture wins top award

PAUL NICKLEN / VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2012

Wildlife photography

Canadian earns global recognition

A photo titled Bubble-Jetting Emperors by Canadian photographer Paul Nicklen has won the globally acclaimed Veolia Environnement Wildlife Photographer of the Year competition. This image of the chaotic underwater world of emperor penguins at the edge of the Ross Sea, in Antarctica, beat over 48,000 entries from 98 countries to claim the prize. METRO

Photographer's viewpoint

"The penguins definitely fed off my energy. But I was lucky as I was almost killed by a deadly leopard seal the previous day!"

Paul Nicklen, speaking to Metro about how perilous the life of a wildlife photographer can be.

Story behind photo

Nicklen describes how he took photo

For the image, Nicklen stayed motionless, waiting for the penguins. Suddenly the birds blasted up from the depths and, with frozen fingers, Paul captured this incredible image. "It was a fantastic sight," Nicklen said. "Hundreds launched themselves out of the water and onto the ice above me. It was a moment that I felt incredibly fortunate to witness and one I'll never forget." METRO

Other winner

Bird vs. airplane captures prize

Teenage amateur photographer Owen Hearn (U.K.) won the overall award for under-17s with his image of a red kite bird of prey and an airplane captured on his grandparents' farm.

"With the bird and plane, you can see the connection between nature and humans," Hearn told Metro. "The life of these birds is decided by how far we develop and encroach into their environment." METRO

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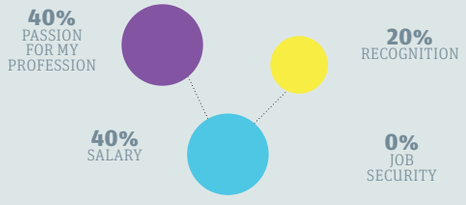

Twitter

@elliotscott6: Watching #weday in Vancouver @craigkielburger is such an inspiration and great speaker. He should be knighted ! Made a HUGE change.

@TheHeraEra: Let me just say that Magic Johnson's smile is pure magic. #WeDay

@MontrealNJYG: @CodySimpson's performance and speech today was so inspirational.So proud,I love you so much <3 #WeDay

@GabrielaWillick: Can't believe I just saw Cody simpson!!! flipen out right now don't know what to think of it ! @CodySimpson #WeDay

@amyCrazyLovatic: #WeDay has been INCREDIBLE so far. Feeling super inspired to make a change.

metro

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Ginger Snaps (from 2000) is a teenage female coming-of-age story couched in werewolf lore. TORSTAR ARCHIVE

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

Hair-raising films for the Halloween season

Frightful fare. The Reel Guys talk about the films that give them the creeps

Richard: Mark, I'm a fan of old school horror. Not Freddy and Jason, or even b-movies like The Astounding She-Monster, but the kind of thing that gave my grandmother nightmares, Dracula, Frankenstein and the Mummy. I love the Universal creature features, so the new one-stop-shopping Classic Monsters Collection Blu Ray has enough to keep me busy until Halloween. Eight monsters! Nine movies! Twelve hours of extras! What keeps you up at night?

Mark: My mortgage, Richard. As far as scary movies go, I have to confess I'm one tough cookie — it's pretty hard to scare me. If there's just a tiny note of humour, I can't take the flick seriously. And I don't believe in monsters, vampires, or ghosts. But what does scare me is the horror of people behaving very, very badly — anything to do with psychopaths gives me the creepy-crawlies. I'm thinking of Henry: Portrait of a Serial Killer, In the Light of the Moon (the Ed Gein biopic), Monster (Aileen Wuornos) or the long list of fictional serial killer movies — Se7en, American Psycho, Silence of the Lambs. Quite an impressive sub-genre when you think about it.

RC: In Cold Blood always freaks me out. It's not a horror film in the traditional sense, but because it's a true story of a senseless murder it sends shivers down my spine… and elsewhere. I usually stick to monster movies, because I'm petty sure a werewolf isn't going to attack me on the walk home. Two werewolf faves are Cure of the Werewolf with Oliver Reed and Ginger Snaps, which takes a bite out of the usual lycanthrope myth, spinning it as a teenage girl coming-of-age story. Are there any fictional creatures that get to you?

MB: Well I wouldn't want to meet Leatherface in a dark alley; in fact, I wouldn't want to meet him at the Four Seasons for smart drinks either. But one kind of horror film that does creep me out is the "home invasion" movie. I'm thinking of Funny Games (both European and U.S. versions), The Strangers, even the paint-by-numbers Nic Cage vehicle Trespass gets under my skin. Because this stuff actually happens, y'know?

Boo

Anyone looking to have the hairs on the back of their necks raised this month won't have trouble finding something to do the trick. Silent Hill: Revelation, Sinister and Paranormal Activity 4 (is it four times scarier than the first one?) are all in theatres, but the Reel Guys have some other tinglers you may not have considered.

RC: Yeah, perhaps I'm more just escapist in my taste of creepy movies. I'm not drawn to true horrific crime unless the criminal is the Creature from the Black Lagoon.

MB: Now that's one home invasion I'd like to see. But I wouldn't want to clean up afterwards.

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Susan Sarandon joins the Cloud Atlas circus

Part of something big. Actress was thrilled to join up with the Wachowskis and help them create their epic vision

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

From playing a former 1960s radical on the run in the Company You Keep to guest-starring as a former middle school teacher out of jail and still romancing a former student in 30 Rock, Susan Sarandon likes to keep things interesting. So naturally she was eager to join the company of Cloud Atlas, playing four different characters for directors Lana and Andy Wachowski and Tom Tykwer. The experience was, as Sarandon puts it, "like joining the circus."

What was the draw for you to take on all of these roles?
I just love the Wachowskis, and I had met Tom before when I was doing Speed Racer. Actually, they gave me the book as a parting gift at that time and I loved the book, and I wasn't thinking about it being made into a movie, but when they got it all together years later and said, "We miss you, come spend some time with us and play in Berlin," even without knowing what they wanted me to do I knew that it was something that I could bear to talk about for days on end at junkets and that it would be a really interesting experience.

How much does being able to bear talking about something for days on end normally factor into your decision?
It's major, because seriously you give so much energy. If it's not something that excites you for some reason, you feel like a hooker. I mean, you can't do it for the money. It has to be something that either has a concept or a character that you've not done before. It can be just fun. You never know how something's going to turn out, so you can't ever make a decision based on what you think will be successful and what won't.

What about this one?
This one was like joining a repertory company, and the spirit of the people that would take that kind of a chance, that would do little parts and big parts and bounce all over the place and put their egos aside was a very unusual, unusual camp to belong to. It was like joining the circus. It was very exhilarating for everybody, I think, even the people who worked much harder than I worked, because you knew you were a part of something that was very special, and everybody was game. When you work with Lana and Andy, they're always very, very well-prepared, but this one, because it was so complicated, it really felt like you were taking off and going into outer space or something, in terms of what it was attempting. There was a certain excitement at being asked to be part of it that I just wanted. Even just historically, I thought it was a really groundbreaking attempt.

Are you going to be popping up on the last season of 30 Rock?
Not so far as I know, no. As far as I know, there's no plans for that. Alec [Baldwin] had said to me, "I'd like to end up with you at the end of the show." I don't know how that would happen, but I said, "Yeah, sure, it sounds good." It's fun to do these little things where you don't have to be on something for seven years, but you get to just come in and play a little.

Susan Sarandon stars in Cloud Atlas, which opens next Friday. TORSTAR ARCHIVE

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Perfecting the art of being drunk

Smashed. Mary Elizabeth Winstead had the daunting task of acting like she was drunk in a film about an alcoholic teacher

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

She's made a name for herself backing up a vampire-slaying Abraham Lincoln, as John McClain's daughter in Live Free or Die Hard and as a hipster dream girl in Scott Pilgrim vs. the World.

But despite the fun she's had in the pop culture movie world, Mary Elizabeth Winstead has been hungry for a good, solid indie drama.

That doesn't mean taking on the lead in Smashed didn't come with a few hesitations, though.

"It was scary for me to take it on because I'd never done anything like that before, and I think for years, like most actors, you sit around going, 'Why can't I get one of those parts that's, like, really great?'" Winstead says with a laugh.

"But then when you actually get the part you're like, 'Oh s---, I have to figure out how to do this.' So it was a little scary.

"But just the fact that I got through it and I did it and the response has been good, my confidence has grown a lot."

Playing an elementary school teacher who realizes she's an alcoholic held several challenges, not least of which was convincingly pretending to be drunk.

Smashed opens next Friday. HANDOUT

Quoted

"It's just kind of like hypnosis in a way. You just take yourself through all the steps of what it feels like to be drunk, and it just kind of plays a little mind trick on you ..."

Mary Elizabeth Winstead on acting like she was drunk in Smashed

"It's really daunting. Even the best actors sometimes, it's just really hard," she admits.

"The whole thing about being drunk is that you're out of control.

"And if you're acting, you're sometimes sort of in control and it kind of defeats the whole purpose of making it authentic."

Luckily, Winstead found help in the form of a book, The Power of the Actor, given to her by co-writer and director James Ponsoldt.

"It has an entire chapter dedicated to playing drunk," Winstead explains.

"It's kind of just like hypnosis in a way.

"You just take yourself through all the steps of what it feels like to be drunk, and it just kind of plays a little mind trick on you and you feel really loose and out of your body.

"It really helped just let me let go of the fear of worrying about whether it felt real or not because I just felt really loose and buzzed, for sure."

Of course, that only covers half of the journey her character takes.

To research the heart of the story, Winstead spent a month attending Alcoholic Anonymous meetings around Los Angeles — though always at the invitation of a member.

"It was great. Everyone was so relatable, and that was my first step," she says.

"This wasn't someone different from me.

"She drinks, and I don't drink a lot, but if you take that part out of it she's pretty much exactly like me.

"That was my first step into figuring her out.

"Then I just had to figure out what my alcohol was in my life and sort of go through my own AA sort of process with a different substance."

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Crime

Alex Cross

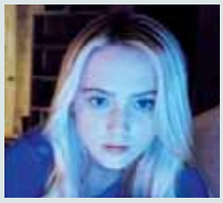
Director. Rob Cohen

Stars. Tyler Perry, Matthew Fox, Rachel Nichols

Tyler Perry is the new Alex Cross, stepping into the role Morgan Freeman made famous in Kiss the Girls. In this new thriller the detective underestimates a serial killer (a skeletal Matthew Fox) and that rare mistake in judgment ends up changing his life. The problems here are many, starting with a TV movie-ready script. The only unused cliché is, "Just the facts, ma'am," but, I'm sure screenwriters are already crafting that line into Alex Cross 2: My Name's Not Madea.

RICHARD CROUSE

Horror



Paranormal Activity 4

Director. Henry Joost, Ariel Schulman

Stars. Stephen Dunham, Katie Featherston, Kathryn Newton, Alexondra Lee

Paranormal Activity fans (or what's left of you) are in for the same ride as usual, but this one should have never started. The fourth installment in the franchise offers viewers the same predictable thrills and a weak storyline that is all too familiar. This series started off strong, as the first film explored new territory in the horror genre and went on to be considered one of the scariest movies of all time. Unfortunately there is nothing left to squeeze out of this story. **OLIVIA MORROW**

Drama

Rebelle

Director. Kim Nguyen

Stars. Rachel Mwanza, Serge Kanyinda

A harrowing tale about a young African (astonishingly played by newcomer Rachel Mwanza) who is forced to become a gun-toting child soldier, Rebelle is a provocative examination of the horrors of war from Canadian filmmaker Kim Nguyen. It may not be an easy film to sit through but its evocative impact on audiences resounds long after the credits roll — whether you want it to or not.

STEVE GOW

Documentary

Stories We Tell

Director. Sarah Polley

Stars. Sarah Polley, Michael Polley

Truth may be stranger than fiction but in Stories We Tell, Sarah Polley proves it to be particularly compelling as well. A four-year semi-secret project, the actress-turned-Oscar-nominated filmmaker explores her ebullient late-mother's possible infidelity and her own biological probability through family interviews and a fascinating blend of real and recreated footage. Not only is it stirring drama but the film's such an engrossing dissection of truth and memory, it'll leave you curious about your own family's stories.

STEVE GOW

Drama

The Paperboy

Director. Lee Daniels

Stars. Zac Efron, Nicole Kidman

The Paperboy may be the long-awaited follow-up to the award-winning hit Precious but director Lee Daniels' shouldn't hold his breath for nominations this Oscar season. Set in 1969, this Southern melodrama explores two brothers investigating the questionably incarcerated hillbilly husband of an oversexed seductress (Kidman). While Daniels' cloaks the film in intolerance and tension, the rambling plot and overcalculated shocks simply antagonize its audience — especially an infamous scene involving Kidman peeing on Zac Efron's jellyfish sting.

STEVE GOW

Future of film

Bond, 3D Bond?

Celebrating his 50th birthday, James Bond has been learning some new tricks — but 3D isn't one of them.

Producers of the spy franchise say they have no interest in making a Bond film in 3D.

The upcoming Skyfall is the first Bond film to be released since Avatar made 3D a common and often lucrative practice for blockbusters.

"3D is fantastic for the right material, but we're not sure Bond is the right way to go," said Skyfall producer Barbara Broccoli in a recent interview.

"With our movies, there's a lot of challenges to 3D, particularly when you've got a lot of action and a lot of quick cutting."

Broccoli and her half-brother Michael G. Wilson have shepherded the last seven Bond films, preserving the franchise as a family business.

Skyfall, premieres next week in the U.K. and opens Nov. 9 in the U.S.

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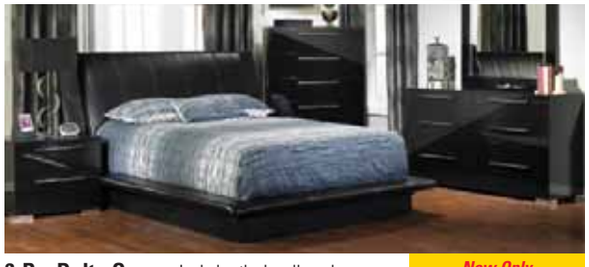

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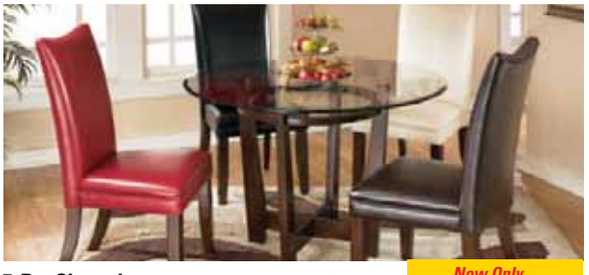

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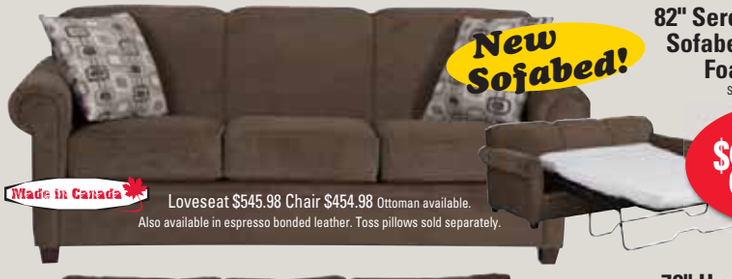

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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., OCT. 19 TO THURS., OCT. 25. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

Vancouver

OMNIMAX Theatre Science World 1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

Bugs! (STC) A.M. Thu 11
The Human Body (STC) A.M. Wed 11
Rocky Mountain Express (STC) Fri-Thu 1-3 A.M. Tue 11
To the Arctic (G) Fri 12-2 Sat-Sun 12-2-4 Mon-Thu 12-2

Dunbar Theatre 4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

Argo (PG) Fri 7-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:30-4-7-9:35 Mon-Thu 7-9:35

Fifth Avenue Cinemas 2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

Arbitrage (14A) Fri-Wed 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:25 Thu 1:30-4:10-9:25
Looper (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:30-7:20-9:50
The Master (14A) Fri-Thu 1-4-7-9:45
The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG) Fri-Tue 1:55-4:20-7:25-9:35 Wed-Thu 1:55-4:20-9:35
Searching for Sugar Man (PG) Fri-Thu 4:45
Stories We Tell (STC) Fri-Thu 1:15-6:50-9:15

Granville 855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

The Bourne Legacy (PG) Fri 6:40-9:20 Sat-Sun 3:55-6:40-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:25-8:05
The Campaign (14A) Fri 7-9:25 Sat-Sun 4:10-7-9:25 Mon-Thu 5:35-8:25
The Dark Knight Rises (PG) Fri 8 Sun 4:05-8 Mon-Thu 8
Hope Springs (PG) Fri 6:45-9:15 Sat-Sun 4:20-6:45-9:15 Mon-Thu 5:30-8:10
Premium Rush (14A) Fri 6:30-9:05 Sat-Sun 4:25-6:30-9:05 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:30
Ted (14A) Fri 6:35-9:10 Sat-Sun 4-6:35-9:10 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:15
Trouble With the Curve (PG) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 4:15-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:20

Pacific Cinémathèque 1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456 cinematheque.bc.ca

Calle 54 (G) Thu 7
The Daisies (STC) Fri 6:30 Sat 8:35 Sun 6:30 Mon 8:35
King Kong vs. Godzilla (STC) Sun 1
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
We Won't Grow Old Together (STC) Fri 8 Sat 6:30 Sun 8 Mon 6:30 Wed 6:30-8:35

Park Theatre 3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

Argo (PG) Fri 4-7-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:15-4-7-9:35 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:35
Ridge Theatre
3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri 4:30-7-9:30 Sat-Sun 2-4:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 4:30-7-9:30

Rio on Broadway 1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film riotheatre.ca

The Exorcist (18A) Fri 11
The Eye of the Storm (STC) Sun 8
No Films Showing Today (STC) Sat-Sun Wed
Premium Rush (14A) Mon-Tue 7-9
Scream (STC) Thu 10

Scotiabank Theatre Vancouver 900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

Argo (PG) Fri-Sun 1:25-2-4:10-4:50-7:10-7:40-10:05-10:30 Mon 1:25-2-4:15-4:45-7-7:35-9:50-10:20 Tue 1:25-2-4:10-4:50-7:10-7:40-10:05-10:30 Wed-Thu 1:25-2-4:15-4:45-7-7:35-9:50-10:20
Dracula / Frankenstein Double Feature (STC) Sun 12:45 Wed 7
Frankenweenie 3D (G) Fri 1:15-3:30-5:50-8:10 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 Mon 1:40-3:50-7:10-10 Tue 1:15-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 Wed-Thu 1:40-3:50-10
Led Zeppelin: Celebration Day (STC) Fri 2:30-11:59 Thu 7:15
Looper (14A) Fri-Sun 2:20-5:10-8-10:40 Mon 2:10-4:50-7:40-10:20 Tue 2:20-5:10-8-10:40 Wed-Thu 2:10-4:50-7:40-10:20
The Master (14A) Fri-Sat 1:35-4:35-7:35-10:35 Sun 4:35-7:35-10:35 Mon 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:25 Tue 1:35-4:35-7:35-10:35 Wed 1:25-4:25-7:25-10:25 Thu 1:25-4:25
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) No Passes Fri 1-3:15-5:30-7:45-10-10:45 No Passes Sat-Sun 1-3:15-5:30-7:45-10 No Passes Mon 3-5:15-7:30-9:45 No Passes Tue 1-3:15-5:30-7:45-10 No Passes Wed-Thu 3-5:15-7:30-9:45 No Passes
Fri 1:45-4-6:15-8:30 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:45-4-6:15-8:30-10:45 No Passes Mon 1:30-3:45-6-8:15-10:30 No Passes Tue 1:45-4-6:15-8:30-10:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-3:45-6-8:15-10:30
Seven Psychopaths (18A) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:10 Mon 1:50-4:40-7:20-10:10 Tue 1:50-4:40-7:30-10:10 Wed 1:50-4:30-7:20-10:30 Thu 1:50-4:40-7:20-10:10
Taken 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:40-6-8:20-10:45 Mon 3:10-5:30-7:50-10:15 Tue 1:20-3:40-6-8:20-10:45 Wed 3:10-5:30-7:50-10:15 Thu 1:55-4:20-7:50-10:15

Vancity Theatre Vancouver International Film Centre 1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film vifc.org

The Island President (G) Wed 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
Rebelle (STC) Fri 6:30 Sat 8:50 Sun 4:30-6:30 Mon 8:50 Wed 3:30
Tabu (STC) Fri 8:30 Sat 6:30 Sun 8:30 Mon 6:30 Wed 1:15

Vancouver Aquarium 4D Experience Theatre 845 Avison Way, 604-659-3752 vanaqua.org

The Great Salmon Run 4D Experience (STC) Fri 11:15-12-12:45-1:30-2:15-3-3:45-4:15 Sat-Sun 10:45-11:15-11:45-12:15-12:45-1:15-1:45-2:15-2:45-3:15-3:45-4:15 Mon-Thu 11:15-12-12:45-1:30-2:15-3-3:45-4:15

North Shore

Esplanade 6 200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

Alex Cross (PG) Fri-Sun 1:05-3:30-6:40-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:30
Frankenweenie (G) Fri-Sun 1:30-6:45 Mon-Thu 6:45
Frankenweenie 3D (G) Fri-Sun 3:55-9:05 Mon-Thu 9:05
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15-3:50-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20
Looper (14A) Fri-Sun 1-3:45-6:30-9:25 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:25
The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG) Fri-Sun 1:25-4:05-7-9:35 Mon-Thu 7-9:35
Sinister (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-4-7:10-9:45 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:45

Park & Tilford 333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

Argo (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:15-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 7-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 2:40 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri-Sun 5:10-7:20-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:30
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:15-3:30-5:45-8-10:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 7:40-10
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:20-7:10-9:40 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:40
Seven Psychopaths (18A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:30-7:25-10 Mon-Thu 7:25-9:50
Taken 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 2:50-5:30-7:40-9:50 Mon-Tue 7:15-9:30 Wed 9:30 Thu 7:15-9:30

Richmond

SilverCity Riverport 14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

Alex Cross (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:40 Mon-Thu 2:30-5:05-7:45-10:30
Argo (PG) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:15 Mon-Wed 1:45-4:30-7:20-10:15 Thu 4:30-7:20-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Dracula / Frankenstein Double Feature (STC) Sun 12:45 Wed 7
End of Watch (STC) Fri-Tue 2:40-5:15-7:55-10:35 Wed 1:50-4:20-10:35 Thu 2:40-5:15-7:55-10:35
Frankenweenie 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:10-3:25-5:50-8:10-10:25 Mon-Thu 2:30-5:05-7:25-9:45
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:15-10:50 Mon-Thu 2:20-5-7:40-10:20
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Wed 2-4:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:45-3-5:20-7:40-9:55 Mon-Thu 2:50-5:20-7:40-9:55
Led Zeppelin: Celebration Day (STC) Thu 7:15
Looper (14A) Fri-Tue 2:25-5:15-7:15-8-10-10:45 Wed 1:50-4:40-7:25-10:10-10:45 Thu 1:30-4:20-8-10:10-10:45
The Master (14A) Fri-Sat 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:25 Sun 4:15-7:20-10:25 Mon-Thu 2:50-6:40-9:50
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:45-3:5:30-7:45-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 2:25-5:10-7:45-10
Paranormal Activity 4: The IMAX Experience (STC) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:45-4-6:15-8:30-10:45
The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG) Fri-Thu 2:35-5:10-7:50-10:20
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Thu 2:10-4:50-7:35-10:15
Resident Evil: Retribution 3D (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:40-6:05-8:25-10:50 Mon-Thu 2:40-5:30-8:05-10:25
Seven Psychopaths (18A) Fri-Thu 2:10-4:45-7:30-10:10
Sinister (14A) Fri-Thu 2:35-5:20-8-10:40
Student of the Year (STC) Fri-Sun 12:55-4:05-7:15-10:20 Mon-Thu 2:45-6:30-9:50
Tai Chi 0 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:15-5:40-8:05-10:35 Mon-Thu 2:45-5:25-7:55-10:30
Taken 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:40-6-8:20-10:45 Mon-Thu 2:40-5:10-7:50-10:10

Burnaby Dolphin Cinemas 4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 1-3:5-7-9:10 Mon-Thu 5-7-9:10
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) Fri-Sun 1:15-3:15-5:15-7:15-9:15 Mon-Thu 5:15-7:15-9:15
SilverCity Metropolis
4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474
Alex Cross (PG) Fri-Sun 12:55-3:20-5:45-8:10-10:40 Mon-Thu 3:20-5:45-8:05-10:25
Argo (PG) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:15 Mon-Wed 2-4:40-7:30-10:15 Thu 2-4:40-7:40-10:15
Dracula / Frankenstein Double Feature (STC) Sun 12:45 Wed 7
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:15-5:40-8:05-10:35 Mon-Thu 2:15-4:45-7:15-9:50
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 12:45-3 Mon-Thu 2:45
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri-Sun 5:20-7:40-9:55 Mon-Thu 5:05-7:20-9:40
Led Zeppelin: Celebration Day (STC) Thu 7:15
Looper (14A) Fri-Sun 2:05-4:55-7:45-10:30 Mon-Tue 2:20-5-7:40-10:20 Wed-Thu 2:20-5-10:20
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:45-4-6:15-8:30-10:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:45-6-8:15-10:30
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Sun 2-4:40-7:25-10:05 Mon-Tue 2:05-4:35-7:10-9:45 Wed 2-4:30-7:40-10:15 Thu 2-4:30-9:45
Seven Psychopaths (18A) Fri-Sat 2:10-4:45-7:30-10:10 Sun 4:45-7:30-10:10 Mon-Thu 2:10-4:50-7:25-10
Sinister (14A) Fri-Sun 2:25-5:10-7:50-10:25 Mon-Thu 2:25-4:55-7:35-10:05
Taken 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 1-3:10-5:30-7:55-10:20 Mon-Thu 3:05-5:30-7:50-10:10

New West/ Coquitlam

SilverCity Coquitlam 170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

Alex Cross (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:40 Mon 2:45-5:20-7:50-10:20 Tue 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:40 Wed-Thu 2:45-5:20-7:50-10:20
Arbitrage (14A) Fri-Sun 2-4:50-8-10:40 Mon 4:50-7:55-10:30 Tue 2-4:50-8-10:40 Wed-Thu 4:50-7:55-10:30
Argo (PG) Fri-Tue 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:10 Wed 4:30-7:20-10:10 Thu 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:10 Fri-Sun 1-3:50-6:40-9:40 Mon 3:50-6:40-9:40 Tue 1-3:50-6:40-9:40 Wed-Thu 3:50-6:40-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Dracula / Frankenstein Double Feature (STC) Sun 12:45 Wed 7
End of Watch (STC) Fri-Sat 1:45-4:20-7:05-9:50 Sun 4:20-7:05-9:50 Mon-Wed 1:45-4:20-7:05-9:50 Thu 1:20-4-10
Frankenweenie 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:30-3:45-6-8:15-10:30 Mon 1:30-3:45-6-8:15-10:25 Tue 1:30-3:45-6-8:15-10:30 Wed-Thu 1:30-3:45-6-8:15-10:25
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Thu 2:35-5:10-7:45-10:20
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-3 Mon 1-3:15 Tue 12:40-3 Wed-Thu 1-3:15
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri-Sun 5:20-7:40-10 Mon 5:30-7:45-10 Tue 5:20-7:40-10 Wed-Thu 5:30-7:45-10
Led Zeppelin: Celebration Day (STC) Thu 7:15
Looper (14A) Fri-Sun 2:10-5-7:50-10:40 Mon 2-4:50-7:40-10:30 Tue 2:10-5-7:50-10:40 Wed-Thu 2-4:50-7:40-10:30 Fri-Sun 1:20-4:10-7:20-10:20 Mon 4:10-7:20-10:15 Tue 1:20-4:10-7:20-10:20 Wed 4:10-7:20-10:15 Thu 4:10-10:15
Masquerade (STC) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15
The Master (14A) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:55-7-10:05 Mon 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05 Tue 12:50-3:55-7-10:05 Wed-Thu 1:05-4:05-7:05-10:05
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 2:30-5:10-7:40-10 No Passes Mon 5:10-7:40-10 No Passes Tue 2:30-5:10-7:40-10 No Passes Wed-Thu 5:10-7:40-10 No Passes Fri-Sun 1:25-3:45-6:05-8:25-10:45 No Passes Mon 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:30 No Passes Tue 1:25-3:45-6:05-8:25-10:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:30
The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG) Fri-Tue 2-4:35-7:10-9:45 Wed 1:45-4:20-10:25 Thu 2-4:35-7:10-9:45
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Tue 2:05-4:45-7:25-10:05 Wed 4:45-7:25-10:05 Thu 2:05-4:45-7:25-10:05 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Seven Psychopaths (18A) Fri-Thu 2:10-4:50-7:30-10:10
Sinister (14A) Fri-Sun 2:30-5:15-7:55-10:35 Mon 2:30-5:10-7:50-10:30 Tue 2:30-5:15-7:55-10:35 Wed-Thu 2:30-5:10-7:50-10:30
Taken 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:10-5:35-8-10:25 Mon 1-3:20-5:40-8-10:25 Tue 12:45-3:10-5:35-8-10:25 Wed-Thu 1-3:20-5:40-8-10:25 Fri-Sun 1:40-4:30-7-9:25 Mon 4:30-7-9:25 Tue 1:40-4:30-7-9:25 Wed-Thu 4:30-7-9:25

Surrey/White Rock/Langley Clova

5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

Hope Springs (PG) Fri-Thu 7
Looper (14A) Fri-Thu 8:55
The Odd Life of Timothy Green (G) Sat-Sun 1:30

Hollywood 3 Cinema 7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Brave (G) Fri-Sun 2:35-6:55 Mon-Thu 6:55
Brave 3D (G) Fri-Thu 4:45
The Dark Knight Rises (PG) Fri-Thu 8:55
End of Watch (STC) Fri-Thu 9:05
Finding Nemo 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-2:40-6:50 Mon-Thu 6:50
House at the End of the Street (PG) Fri-Thu 9
Ice Age: Continental Drift (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-4:45 Mon-Thu 4:45
ParaNorman (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-2:30
Resident Evil: Retribution (14A) Fri-Thu 7
Trouble With the Curve (PG) Fri-Thu 4:35

Strawberry Hill Grande 12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

Alex Cross (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:40 Mon 3-5:35-8:05-10:30 Tue 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10-10:40 Wed-Thu 3-5:35-8:05-10:30
Argo (PG) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:15

†Limited time offers and subject to change without notice. Local airtime minutes only. Additional airtime, long distance, roaming, data, add-ons, provincial 9-1-1 fees (if applicable) and taxes are extra & billed monthly. Plan includes messages sent from Canada to Canadian, U.S. and international wireless numbers. Sent/received premium messages (alerts, messages related to content and promotions) and messages sent while roaming not included and charged at applicable rates. Subject to Fido Terms and Conditions & Acceptable Use Policy, fido.ca/terms. Additional airtime, long distance, roaming, data, add-ons, provincial 9-1-1 fees (if applicable) and taxes are extra & billed monthly. ††Use your airtime anywhere on the Fido network. Long distance charges may apply; fido.ca/callingareas. †††500MB data included in $50 Smart Plan. Additional data: $5/100 MB. Data transmission charges of 3¢/kB apply when roaming. Subject to Fido Terms and Conditions & Acceptable Use Policy, fido.ca/terms. ™Fido and related names & logos are trademarks used under licence. © 2012

Strawberry Hill Grande 12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

English Vinglish (G) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:25-7:15-10:05
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:05-5:40-8:15-10:50 Mon 2:30-5:35-8:05-10:25 Tue 12:30-3:05-5:40-8:15-10:50 Wed-Thu 2:30-5:35-8:05-10:25
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-3 Mon 3 Tue 12:40-3 Wed-Thu 3
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri-Thu 5:20-7:40-9:55
Looper (14A) Fri-Sun 2:30-5:15-8-10:45 Mon 2:15-5-7:45-10:20 Tue 2:30-5:15-8-10:45 Wed 5-7:45-10:20 Thu 2:15-5-7:45-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:45-4-6:15-8:30-10:45 No Passes Mon 1:30-3:45-6-8:15-10:30 No Passes Tue 1:45-4-6:15-8:30-10:45 No Passes Wed-Thu 1:30-3:45-6-8:15-10:30
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Tue 2:10-4:50-7:35-10:15 Wed 4:50-7:35-10:15 Thu 2:10-4:50-7:35-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Saadi Wakhri Hai Shaan (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4:15-7:20-10:30 Mon 1-4:15-7:20-10:25 Tue 1-4:15-7:20-10:30 Wed-Thu 1-4:15-7:20-10:25
Sinister (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:05-5:40-8:15-10:50 Mon 2:55-5:30-7:55-10:25 Tue 12:30-3:05-5:40-8:15-10:50 Wed-Thu 2:55-5:30-7:55-10:25
Student of the Year (STC) Fri-Thu 1-4:15-7:20-10:30
Taken 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-3:40-6-8:20-10:45 Mon 1:20-3:40-6-8:15-10:30 Tue 1:20-3:40-6-8:20-10:45 Wed-Thu 1:20-3:40-6-8:15-10:30

Studio 12 Guildford 15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

Alex Cross (PG) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:20-4:15-7:15-9:45 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:20-7:55 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:15-7:15-9:45 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 5:20-7:55 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 5:25-7:55
Argo (PG) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:15 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:10-8:10 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:40-6:30-9:15 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 5:10-8:10 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 5:15-8:25
Chakravyuh (STC) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 5:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 5:05-8:20
Frankenweenie (G) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:30
Frankenweenie 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 4:40-7:05-9:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:35-7:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:40-7:05-9:20
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:35-4:05-6:40-9:10 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:55-8:35 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:05-6:40-9:10 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:50-8:35
Hotel Transylvania (G) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 4-9 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 8:05 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4-9 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 8:05 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 7:50
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1-6:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 6:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 5:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 5:35
Led Zeppelin: Celebration Day (STC) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 7:15
Looper (14A) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:45-3:35-6:15-9:05 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 8:45 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:35-6:15-9:05 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 8:45
OMG Oh My God (G) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:20-4:25-7:30 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:05 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:25-7:30 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 5:05 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 5:10-8:10
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) Fri-Sun 2-4:30-7-9:30 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:30-8 Tue 2-4:30-7-9:30 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5:30-8
Pitch Perfect (PG) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:15-3:50-6:35-9:35 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:15-8:30 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:50-6:35-9:35 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 5:15-8:30 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 5:20-8:30
Sinister (14A) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:10-3:45-7:20-9:55 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:25-8:25 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:45-7:20-9:55 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 5:25-8:25 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 5:30-8:25
Student of the Year (STC) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 3:30-6:45-10 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5-8:15 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 3:30-6:45-10 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed-Thu 5-8:15
Taken 2 (PG) Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:50-4:20-7:25-9:50 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon 5:50-8:20 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue 4:20-7:25-9:50 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 5:45-8:20 Digital Presentation, Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 5:40-8:05

Rialto 1732-152nd Street,

White Rock, 604-541-9527, criterion-theatres.com

Argo (PG) No Passes Fri 7-9:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 2-7-9:15 No Passes Mon-Thu 7-9:15
Taken 2 (PG) Fri 7:10-9:05 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:05 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:05
Criterion 4 White Rock
2381 King George Highway, 604-531-7456, criteriontheatres.com
Alex Cross (PG) Fri-Sun 2:20-7:20-9:25 Mon-Thu 7:20-9:25
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 2-7-8:45 Mon-Thu 7-8:45
Looper (14A) Fri-Thu 9:20
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) Fri-Sun 2:30-7:30-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:30
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Sun 2:10-7:10 Mon-Thu 7:10

Colossus Langley 20090-91A Ave, Langley, 604-513-8747

Alex Cross (PG) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:10-5:40-8:10 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:45-10:25 Fri-Sun 10:40
Arbitrage (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-3-5:35-8:10-10:40 Mon-Thu 5-7:40-10:30
Argo (PG) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:30-7:20-10:15 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:15-10:05
The Bourne Legacy (PG) Fri-Sat 1:30-4:35-7:35-10:35 Sun 4:35-7:35-10:35 Mon-Tue 4-7-10:10 Wed 4-10:10 Thu 4-7-10:10
Dracula / Frankenstein Double Feature (STC) Sun 12:45 Wed 7
End of Watch (STC) Fri-Sun 2:15-4:55-7:50-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:35-10:30
Frankenweenie 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:45-2:55-5:20-7:40-9:55 Mon-Tue 5:20-7:40-9:55 Wed 3-5:20-7:40-9:55 Thu 5:20-7:40-9:55
Hellbound? (PG) Fri-Sat 1:05-4-7-10:05 Sun 1:05-4:20-7-10:05 Mon-Wed 4:10-7-9:40 Thu 4:10-7-10
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:05-5:40-8:15-10:45 Mon-Tue 4:40-7:30-10:15 Wed 7:30-10:15 Thu 4:40-7:30-10:15 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:15 Mon-Thu 4:45
Hotel Transylvania 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-3-5:20-7:40-9:55 Mon-Thu 4:15-7:15-9:40
Led Zeppelin: Celebration Day (STC) Thu 7:15
Looper (14A) Fri-Sun 2:15-5-7:15-7:45-10-10:30 Mon-Tue 4:05-7:05-7:30-9:50-10:20 Wed 4:05-10-10:30 Thu 4:05-7:30-9:50-10:20 Wed 7:05
Paranormal Activity 4 (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 1:45-4-6:15-8:30-10:45 No Passes Mon-Thu 6-8:15-10:30
Paranormal Activity 4: The IMAX Experience (STC) No Passes Fri-Sun 1-3:15-5:30-7:45-10 No Passes Mon-Thu 5:30-7:45-10
The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG) Fri-Sun 12:35-3:05-5:35-8:05-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:10-10
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Sun 2:10-4:50-7:30-10:10 Mon-Tue 4:35-7:10-9:45 Wed 7:10-9:45 Thu 4:35-7:10-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Seven Psychopaths (18A) Fri-Sun 2:10-4:45-7:25-10:10 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:25-10:10
Sinister (14A) Fri-Sun 2:20-4:55-7:35-10:20 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:25-10:25
Taken 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:35-1:10-2:55-3:25-5:25-5:55-7:45-8:15-10:05-10:35 Mon-Thu 4:30-5-7:05-7:35-9:45-10:15
Twilight Drive-In
260th Street & Fraser Highway, Langley,
604-856-5063
Hotel Transylvania (G) Fri-Sun 7:30
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Thu
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Sun 9:15
Premium Rush (14A) Fri-Sat 11:15

On the trail with a ghost hunter

Ghost Adventures. Show airs Fridays and Saturdays at 9 p.m. ET/PT on Travel+Escape

MEREDITH ENGEL
Metro World News in New York

When Zak Bagans saw his first ghost — a woman at the foot of his bed in Detroit — he knew he was part of a rare breed of people. But he was disappointed to see how lightly people were taking his experience.

"I was really getting aggravated telling this story to people," the host of Ghost Adventures on Travel+Escape says. "I'd tell the story and then we'd go eat a sandwich and that's it. I experienced something that is legit. And that put me on this quest and it changed everything about me after that."

The paranormal expert now seeks out spirits for a living, and he doesn't listen to the naysayers around him.

"The evidence that we are capturing now is not just flickering lights and door knocks," he says. "I want to welcome people that don't believe and talk with them and show them the steps and have them accompany me on investigations."

Bagans says the ghosts that still linger on earth do so for a reason.

"[They] have something to say," he says. "There's something unsolved in their life, whether it's an unsolved murder — they know who the killer is but the police never found out — a lost love [who] died suddenly, they're in denial [about their death]. A spirit, I believe, is still trapped here is because they're not ready to move on. They want to keep living. Or they're dead and they're just stuck here, in purgatory, because they know that if they go to hell, it's gonna be worse."

And there's also a reason why they choose your particular home to haunt.

"It's still a fight of who owns the place. There's a living person there but there's a ghost that wants the living person out."

Zak Bagans, centre, on Ghost Adventures. TRAVEL+ESCAPE

Are you haunted?

If you're one of the "nine out of 10" who Bagans predicts has experienced some supernatural activity in your home, don't panic, he advises.

"Just let it be, because I think that if you try and communicate with them, like what I do, then once they realize — like in the movie Ghost — that you can hear them, they will just bug you even more. If that's what you want, get a digital recorder and talk with them. If you directly start communicating with them, they're gonna know that they've gotten your attention. That's what they're trying to do — get your attention."

The basic tools

"The evolution of technology, the engineers that we work with — electrical engineers that have worked at NASA — they are designing this equipment for us," Bagans says.

- **Mel meter.** It may look like a cell phone Zack Morris would have owned, but it's really used to pick up electromagnetic energy. "Spirits are made up of energy. ... This can detect the energy. It's like a metal detector."
- **Digital recorder.** Got one of these lying around? You can use it to talk to ghosts. Once you identify some inexplicable energy, record yourself talking to the potential spirit and play it back on a speaker. "These microphones will pick up sounds that we can't hear," Bagans says. "They'll pick up subfrequencies. And when spirits speak they can speak within these subfrequencies, in the white noise that's generated by the recorders."

TV picks

Canadians get first look at Happy Endings

The new series Hunted stars Australian native Melissa George (a Golden Globe nominee for In Treatment) as a spy for an elite private intelligence firm that she suspects may have tried to kill her. She struggles to figure out who she can trust and what the company's intentions are. The series, which premieres Friday, was created by Frank Spotnitz, who wrote and produced The X Files. **(HBO Canada, The Movie Network)**

While the truth remains hidden for the character in Hunted, that's not the case over at CBC News: the fifth estate. Entitled Whistleblowers: Moment of Truth, Friday's episode sees memorable informants discussing the direction their lives took after their revelations became public. (CBC)

Bruno Mars does double duty as the host and musical guest on Saturday Night Live. Chances are he'll perform his percussion-heavy new single, Locked Out of Heaven, from his upcoming album, Unorthodox Jukebox. **(Global, NBC)**

Speaking of Mars, he's set to perform in December's Victoria's Secret Fashion Show alongside Justin Bieber, who is featured in a concert special Saturday. Justin Bieber: London Live finds the Stratford, Ont., pop sensation giving an intimate performance at London's Under the Bridge music venue. **(Super Channel)**

Films on the Saturday schedule include the romantic heartbreaker The Time Traveler's Wife, starring Rachel McAdams and Eric Bana, and the fertility comedy The Switch, starring Jennifer Aniston and Jason Bateman **(W Network)**. Other options include the supernatural comedy classic Ghostbusters **(Teletoon)**, and Quentin Tarantino's Second World War drama Inglourious Basterds **(Peachtree TV)**.

Canadians will get to catch the season 3 premiere of the buddy comedy series Happy Endings before viewers south of the border on Sunday. The debut, which airs in the U.S. on Tuesday, sees Alex and Dave taking a second stab at a relationship after she dumped him at the altar. Things are no different for pitiful Penny, though, a bad-luck magnet who winds up in a full-body cast after an accident. Max tries to take care of her but his efforts become more hindrance than help when he lusts after her physical therapist. **(Citytv)**

And if the promotional photos for Sunday's episode of Revenge are any indication, someone will be injured — or perhaps worse. The shots show several characters, including Emily and Jack, looking shocked and saddened in a hospital. **(Citytv, ABC)**

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Happy Endings on Citytv. HANDOUT

Roffi
#belugagrads
CONCERT

CENTRE IN VANCOUVER FOR PERFORMING ARTS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2012
2:00PM & 4:30PM
TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT TICKETMASTER.CA, BY PHONE AT 1-855-985-5000, OR IN PERSON AT ALL TICKETMASTER OUTLETS
Proceeds benefit the CENTRE FOR CHILD HONOURING Salt Spring Island and presented in association with ARTSUMBRELLA
PAULMERCS

Tickets on sale now! @ VSFF.com or at the door
October 26-27
Vancity Theatre
1181 Seymour Street Vancouver
October 26:
6 PM HOMETOWN FAVOURITES
6 PM THE CHILD IN EACH OF US Opening Reception
October 27:
1 PM GET ANIMATED! WORKSHOP (FREE for all ages)
3 PM NFB FAMILY PROGRAM (FREE for all ages)
5:30 PM PANEL: I MADE A SHORT AND ALL I GOT WAS THIS AWESOME FILM CAREER
7:30 PM RESISTING THE INEVITABLE Closing Party and Awards Ceremony Sponsored by Rasare
2012
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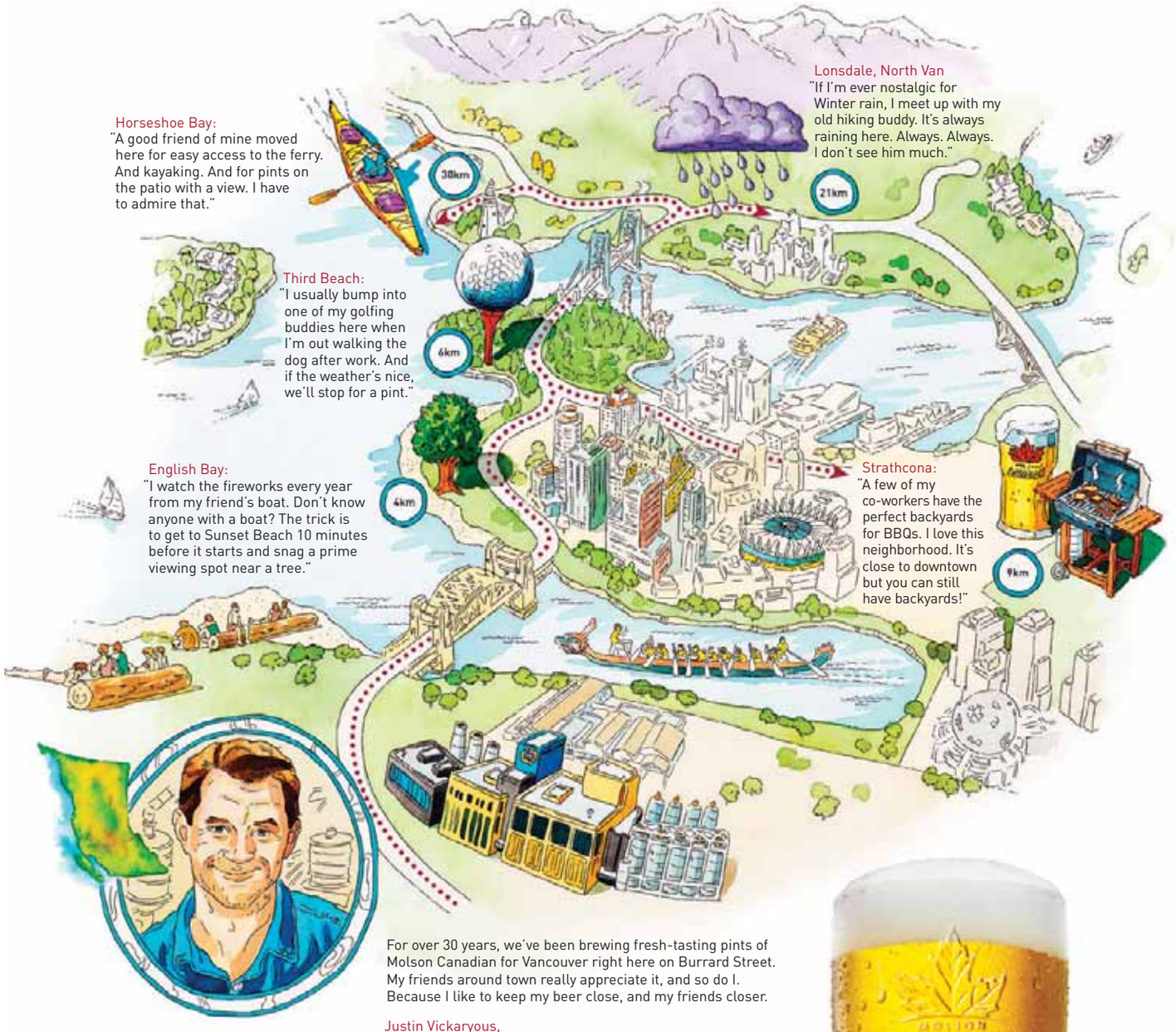
FILM FESTIVAL
KEEP IT SHORT
vancityfilmfest


Horseshoe Bay:
"A good friend of mine moved here for easy access to the ferry. And kayaking. And for pints on the patio with a view. I have to admire that."
30km
Lonsdale, North Van
"If I'm ever nostalgic for Winter rain, I meet up with my old hiking buddy. It's always raining here. Always. Always. I don't see him much."
21km
Third Beach:
"I usually bump into one of my golfing buddies here when I'm out walking the dog after work. And if the weather's nice, we'll stop for a pint."
6km
English Bay:
"I watch the fireworks every year from my friend's boat. Don't know anyone with a boat? The trick is to get to Sunset Beach 10 minutes before it starts and snag a prime viewing spot near a tree."
4km
Strathcona:
"A few of my co-workers have the perfect backyards for BBQs. I love this neighborhood. It's close to downtown but you can still have backyards!"
9km

For over 30 years, we've been brewing fresh-tasting pints of Molson Canadian for Vancouver right here on Burrard Street. My friends around town really appreciate it, and so do I. Because I like to keep my beer close, and my friends closer.

Justin Vickaryous,
Vancouver Brewmaster for Molson Canadian

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THAT'S WHY WE BREW PINTS OF MOLSON CANADIAN (RIGHT) HERE IN VANCOUVER.

CHEERS FROM BURRARD STREET. MOLSON CANADIAN. MADE FROM CANADA.

Bruce Springsteen. Talks about who he thinks should be the U.S. boss

Bruce Springsteen has endorsed Barack Obama for president. GETTY IMAGES

After vowing not to participate in this year's presidential election, Bruce Springsteen is supporting Barack Obama again, saying he believes Obama is the best person to lead America.

Springsteen posted a message on his website Wednesday night endorsing President Obama's re-election, saying he'd been "getting asked a lot about where I stand."

The rock star will make his debut on the 2012 campaign trail Thursday at events in Iowa with former President Bill Clinton.

He also backed Obama in 2008.

Springsteen says he's behind Obama, who is facing Republican rival Mitt Romney in November, because of the rights of women and homosexuals, ending the war in Iraq and tracking down Osama bin Laden.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Getting down with the Dum Dum Girls during End of Daze

New music. Dee Dee Penny talks about what motivates them to make the high-energy music they do

HEIDI PATALANO
Metro World News

Dee Dee Penny of the Dum Dum Girls doesn't seem to be the excitable type, with her soft monotone speaking voice and often expressionless countenance, but her music betrays a kind of raw, spastic energy that fuels her ambitious creative output.

We'd try to describe what it sounds like, but as Penny reminds us, journalists too often get the references wrong.

So instead, we'll have Penny tell you, herself, as she discusses this and her new EP, End of Daze.

Dum facts

What you need to know about the Dum Dum Girls

- **Formed.** The band, originally from California, formed in 2009.
- **Leader of the band.** Dee Dee Penny, currently based in New York City, with the rest of the band in Los Angeles, was the person who put the concepts together and gives the band its musical focus.

The Dum Dum Girls have released their new EP, End of Daze. GETTY IMAGES

Press materials for this EP go into a lot of detail about the albums you were listening to while you wrote it. Why do you think it's important to put your influences out there like that?

I don't know that it is. ... I think it's honestly born of reading reviews of things that are so far off the mark in terms of what they assume I was thinking or reading or listening to. Sometimes I just get to the point where I'm like, 'I'm just gonna tell you because it's gonna come out better for both of us.'

But I never want anything to be that apparent and it's never something that overt. Like, oh, obviously, I listened to Viva Hate during this period and my work is a direct extension of that. It's just sometimes helpful — especially for a band like mine who has from an early point been pigeonholed or summarized in like, two bands.

Why did these five songs seem to be a unit unto itself rather than part of a full album?

It was pretty similar to when I put out the He Gets Me High EP. It felt like this album was maybe not conceptual in the traditional sense, but I felt like it dealt with something specifically and then it was complete at five songs. I'm always writing. I have probably 40 songs I could have put out.

You've done some great covers — notably There Is a Light That Never Goes Out by The Smiths. Are you ever worried that fans will focus more on those and less on your original material?

No. I definitely have made a habit of recording covers.

There's been a cover on every record I've done except for Only in Dreams and that is very much related to the fact that I am a music fan. I don't think that overshadows what I do, but I think it brings to light how I approach things.

I've never done a traditional cover in the sense that it sounds a lot like the original.

I've always tried to do a personal interpretation of it. ... I never think I can improve on the original. I like to take a stab at it from a different direction.

I think people appreciate that.

People love hearing songs that they love. If it's a song by somebody else that we play that they love, they're still going to be really happy about that.

It's like a little gift, especially with The Smiths' song because The Smiths are such a massive band for so many people. ... It's so many people's favorite song and for them to not slag us off for covering it, that's kind of an accomplishment (laughs).

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Diamond Rings, Bat for Lashes and Rah Rah fight for shelf space

Taylor Swift has a new album coming Tuesday, so all the other big names have wisely cleared out of her way. But she doesn't have everything to herself.

SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

On the web

Scan this code or visit metronews.ca to listen to Alan Cross' selections.

1

Free Dimensional / Diamond Rings

Toronto's Bowie-esque John Diamond Rings O'Regan is ready with his second album. The hype is quite thick. Let's see what happens.

2

Laura/Bat for Lashes

I've heard portions of Natasha Bat for Lashes Khan's third album, The Haunted Man. It's gorgeous. Start with this advance single.

3

Art and a Wife/ Rah Rah

Fun husband and wife team from Regina from their third album, The Poet's Dead. The video is great for people who love dogs.

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Kutcher tops TV wage stack

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Here's a little perspective to kick off your weekend: Ashton Kutcher is not only having sexual relations with Mila Kunis but he's also pulling in a whopping $24 million a year.

So even though Kutcher is the butt of many jokes, maybe he's having the last laugh? According to a new article in Forbes, the Two and a Half Men star earned that huge salary courtesy of his starring role on the top-rated sitcom, Two and a Half Men (his tech investments also helped).

Following Kutcher were Hugh Laurie and Ray Romano, tied for second place at $18 million thanks to the syndication of House and Everybody Loves Raymond. Next: Alec Baldwin of 30 Rock and Mark Harmon of NCIS in another tie at $15 million a year, followed by Tim Allen, star of Last Man Standing, at $14 million.

Sadly, Jon Cryer, who always played second financial fiddle to Charlie Sheen on Men, is still losing out to his more handsome coworker and is only bringing in $13 million. One day the nerds will rise, Cryer, and you will have your due.

Katy Perry

Perry's brother admits Mayer isn't Katy's 'one'

Katy Perry may be enjoying her time with John Mayer — this week, at least — but Perry's brother, David Hudson, doesn't think the Teenage Dream singer has met "the one" yet. "She deserves a true gentleman, and I don't think she's found that," Hudson says, according to Hollyscoop, adding that Perry doesn't "necessarily (need a guy) in the business, just someone that's really got something impressive." Of course, just because her brother isn't happy about her current boyfriend doesn't mean she'll take any of his advice. "She shrugs it off because she's her own person," Hudson admits.

Twitter

@MissKellyO
Sun screen in the eye is not fun! #It's burning

@Ellen Page
Don't COUNT your chickens before they hatch? What? No. Don't JUGGLE them.

@SethMacFarlane
There's a special variety of panic that only comes from hearing a cat make that "unk", "unk", "unk" sound before a carpet puke.

@ConanOBrien
The History Channel used to be cool, but they're just stuck in the past.

Jennifer Aniston

Aniston praises fiancé for 'sneakiest' proposal

Jennifer Aniston gives fiancé Justin Theroux high marks for secrecy in the lead-up to his popping the question. "The proposal was one of the sneakiest jobs I've ever seen," Aniston said. "I had no idea." The actress also has no idea what to wear for her big day, but she knows it won't be experimental. "A bride should look like herself. If you try something new, you'll feel uncomfortable," she said.

Megan Fox

Fox welcomes her baby boy into the world

Megan Fox gave birth to a baby boy last month, according to E! News, keeping mum about the arrival. Fox and husband Brian Austin Green welcomed son Noah Shannon Green on Sept. 27, a first for the couple. Green also has a 10-year-old son, Kassius, from a previous relationship. An already pregnant Fox told Cosmopolitan magazine in April that she's "always been maternal" and wants "at least two, probably three kids."

Chelsea Handler ALL PHOTOS GETTY

Paris Hilton? I couldn't Handler on my show, says host Chelsea

Chelsea Handler has had all sorts of guests on her talk show, but she has to draw the line somewhere. When asked by Access Hollywood if there's anyone she would never have on Chelsea Lately, the host says, "Well, probably Paris Hilton or something. She hasn't begged (to come on), but I mean, I can't look at her. She's like the worst." Handler also shoots down the idea of ever interviewing Dina or Michael Lohan, the headline-grabbing parents of troubled actress Lindsay Lohan. "No, I can't talk to them," Handler says.

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Liquid Assets

Spicy side of your cocktail

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

When you grow up in Nova Scotia, like I did, it's a given that your first taste of spirits will come from the fountain of rum. Not just any rum, I'm talking black rum. Jet black rum.

It's the kind of tipple that grows hair on your chest and offers you memories to last a lifetime (along with some you wish to forget).

Sadly, most everywhere else in Canada rum isn't held in such high esteem — proving a favourite of Johnny Depp wannabes and those who find a popular cola brand the ultimate cocktail mix.

While I'm cool with that, there is a certain "je ne sais quoi" to rum that appeals to the pirate in all of us. That said, a glass of rum's 21st century persona is less yo-ho-ho and way more spice — which is opening liquor cabinet doors across the country.

The Kraken Black Spiced ($27.99 - $32.99) is the epitome of dark rum's new personality. Inky black, rich and spicy, it drinks as well over ice as it does blended into any rum-based concoction.

Plus, packaging fans will love the bottles two-handled grip and the menacing giant squid on the label.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

The spice route

This time of the year sees us returning to the foods that we know and love — pies, soups and hot drinks. Bal Arneson of the Food Network's Spice Goddess, tells us how to remake our favourites.

DAN CLAPSON

Bal Arneson, cookbook author and Food Network Canada personality, is definitely one lady who knows her spices. You can watch her reinventing delicious dishes on her popular show, Spice Goddess, as well as a resident judge on Shaw's new cooking series, Cooking with Fire. Here's how Arneson uses Indian spices at home to transform some traditional autumn staples…

Hot Chocolate

"A pinch of clove will give it a nice, fresh flavour. Clove is so strong, so just a tiny, tiny pinch! And, a pinch of cardamon on top of the whipped cream."

Apple Pie

"When I mix my apples (for the pie), I always add green cardamon seeds. The seeds have a nice floral flavour. Once you try it with the cardamon, you can never go back to the regular apple pie!"

Butternut Squash Soup

"Definitely crushed coriander and cumin seeds. Coriander will give it a nice nutty flavour and the cumin will add a warming feeling to (the soup).

DAN CLAPSON

Curried Pumpkin. Transition pie staple to savoury dish

This recipe serves four. SUBMITTED

"One of my jobs as a child was to remove the seeds from the pumpkin before my mom could cook with it," remembers Bal Arneson.

1. Heat the grapeseed oil in a skillet over medium-high heat. When the oil is hot, add the chopped onion and ginger and cook for 2 minutes.

2. Stir in the chopped tomatoes, fenugreek seeds, garam masala, and salt and cook for 5 minutes.

3. Add the cubed pumpkin, vegetable broth and chili to the skillet. Bring everything to boil, then reduce the heat to low. Cook until the pumpkin is tender, 15-18 minutes. Serve the Curried Pumpkin over rice.

RECIPE COURTESY OF BAL ARNESON

Ingredients

- 3 tbsp (45 ml) grapeseed oil
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 1 tsp (5 ml) chopped ginger
- 1 cup (250 ml) finely chopped tomatoes
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) fenugreek seeds
- 1 tsp (5 ml) garam masala
- salt to taste
- 1 lb (500 g) pumpkin, seeded, peeled, and cubed
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) vegetable broth
- 1 green chili, finely sliced

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NOTABLE NOW
Julian Brass, Founder of notable.ca, Canada's online source for young professionals

Fright Nights at the PNE

On until Oct. 31, one of Vancouver's scariest and largest annual Halloween attractions is back at the PNE (2901 East Hastings St.) with haunted houses, live shows, themed rides and the new phobia-induced FEAR house that will have you screaming all the way home. Attempt to make your way through all six haunted houses, take in the ghoulish comedy show, and test out more than a dozen rides before facing your FEARS. For more info and to purchase passes visit pne.ca/fright-nights.

Happening Now: Taste of Yaletown

Dine out at some of the Vancouver's top restaurants as part of this annual community-based event that's on until Oct. 27. Enjoy an array of culinary offerings and delicious wines all within the Yaletown neighbourhood. Participating restaurants are offering special three-course, pre-fixe menus (from $25 to $45) and reservations fill up quickly. For more information and to learn about participating restaurants visit yaletowninfo.com.

Just Opened: TOPSHOP TOPMAN

Vancouver's style-seekers can breathe easy when in search of their next fashion fix starting this weekend. Opening to the public, and in partnership with The Bay, this iconic British fashion store is set to welcome shoppers to its new 33,000-square-foot space at 674 Granville St. Vancouver's TOPSHOP TOPMAN location will feature the complete collection of TOPSHOP and TOPMAN collections as well as additional premium and exclusive designer collections. Info thebay.com/topshop.

El Matador Spanish Tapas & Drinks

Tucked just below the Starbucks off Lower Lonsdale and an easy Seabus ride from downtown Vancouver, discerning diners can find a true taste of Spanish cuisine and Andalusian tapas-style treats. Menu items are simple and flavourful (and easy on the wallet) with most items priced at $5. This is complimented by plenty of sangria, wine and beer on tap. Open from 4 p.m. until late at 131 West Esplanade. elmatadorsocial.com.

Parade of Lost Souls: Spirit Creatures

Get into the spirit of Halloween by participating in one of various themed activities leading up to the annual parade. This weekend try your hand at one of several spook-inducing workshops happening at the Public Dreams Studio at 2050 Scotia St. Admission is by donation and participants are invited to create their own four-legged character complete with headpiece and costume effects for the parade. For more info visit publicdreams.org.

Recently Opened: ik2go Hornby

If you're already a big fan of Italian Kitchen's grab and go 'ik2go' cuisine, you'll like this news. The second (and largest) ik2go location recently opened along the Yaletown/West End transitional corridor at 1328 Hornby St. offering a larger menu loaded with tasty Italian fare. Hungry diners have the added option at this new location: take-out or sit-down to enjoy your eats. ik2go.com.

SUCCESSFUL SUCCESSION

IS IT TIME TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP?

Although he studied design, Lonn Trickett found success as a contractor, establishing and running a successful business for several decades. Although his son Matt had worked for him as a young man, he showed no interest in following in his footsteps, choosing to study business administration.

It all began to change, though, as Lonn began to consider retirement and winding up his businesses.

"Unlike other businesses, you can't really sell a construction firm," Lonn Trickett says. "The value lies in your customers and in the reputation that you've acquired over the years."

A few years after graduating from the University of Manitoba, Lonn Trickett set up a cabinet shop; many of his products were installed in retail shops. When he would deliver cabinets, retailers often would ply him with questions about construction. He quickly recognized a business opportunity in contract construction projects for retailers.

"The world of retail is unique," he says. "A store loses money if a construction job isn't completed on time. I was successful because I finished projects on time and on budget."

Trickett's reputation grew quickly and he was soon completing jobs for national retail chains, such as Shoppers Optical and Benn Moss Jewellers. The cabinet shop, Foundry Design, operated as a separate business, supplying components for construction projects. Lonn Trickett loved his work and couldn't envisage stopping entirely when he retired. Business was booming, however, and he didn't want to simply walk away from his customers.

"Matt called me one day and said he wanted to get back into the cabinet business," Trickett says. "Things fell into place from there."

A client of Scotiabank, Lonn Trickett had discussed succession planning with a specialist there and soon came up with a plan that would work for all concerned. His son incorporated as an independent entity and began to supply cabinets as a subcontractor. Matt later moved into contracting, enabling Lonn to work less and only on projects that appeal to him.

"By working as independent entities, it really helps us separate family and business matters," says Lonn Trickett. "It's been a perfect solution for us."

SEVEN TIPS FOR A SOUND PLAN

1. Start early.
2. Anticipate, understand and resolve family issues.
3. Communicate regularly and honestly.
4. Secure the advice of lawyers, accountants and other professionals.
5. Establish a clear timeline.
6. Develop comprehensive financial and estate plans.
7. Review the plans regularly and update as needed.

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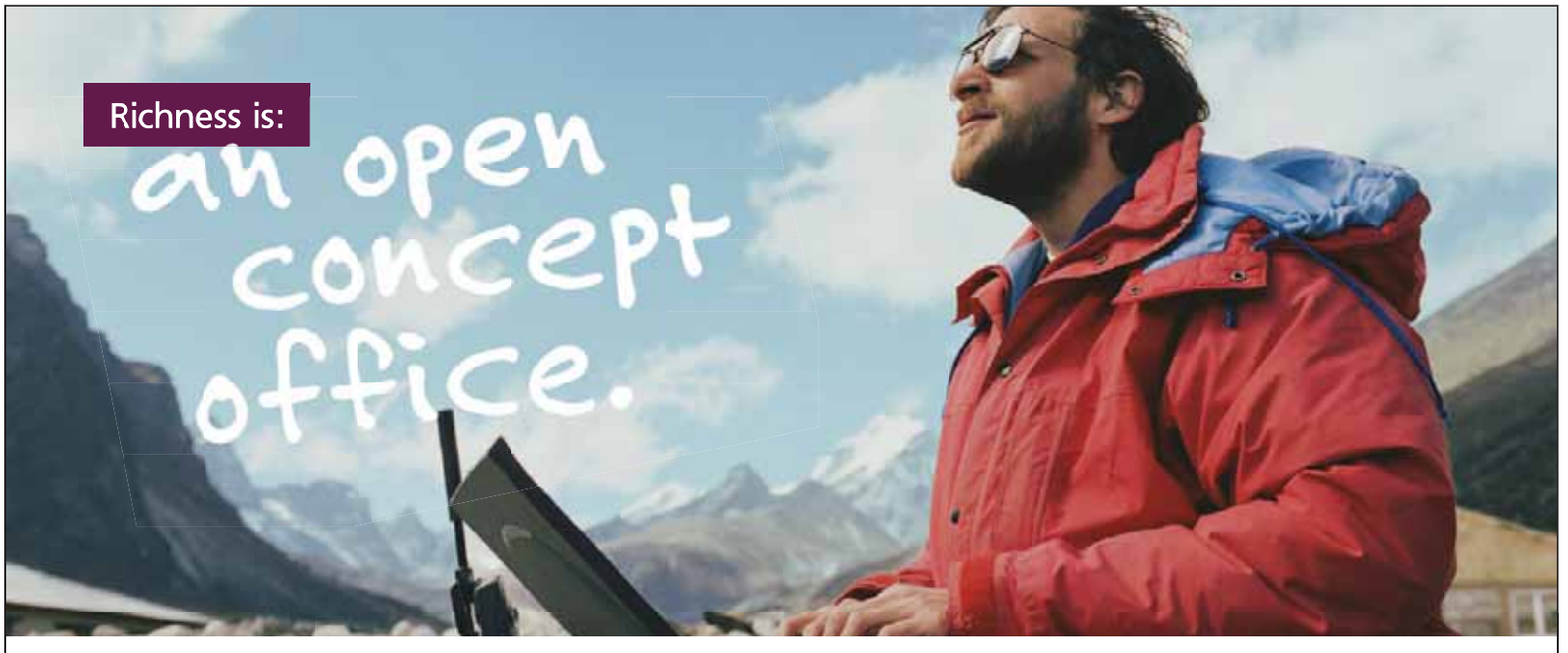

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4 SPORTS

Soccer

Coach Hart takes fall for Honduras

Canada's humiliating loss in Honduras has cost coach Stephen Hart his job.

Canadian Soccer Association president Victor Montagliani said Hart had resigned effective Thursday.

Canada needed just a tie or win in San Pedro Sula on Tuesday to advance to the final round of World Cup qualifying. Instead, they were drubbed 8-1 Tuesday in the worst loss by the Canadian men since an 8-0 shellacking in Mexico in 1993.

"This game is a beautiful game but at times it can be cruel," Montagliani said in a conference call on Thursday. "And I think we all know what needed to happen."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL

Mitchell slur 'embarrassing' for Lions organization

B.C. Lions general manager Wally Buono says the team and Khalif Mitchell are embarrassed after the defensive lineman posted a racial slur on Twitter earlier this week.

While tweeting about Tuesday's U.S. presidential debate, Mitchell posted a derogatory term toward Chinese. He later apologized for using the word, saying he didn't know it was offensive.

"This is obviously an embarrassing moment for all of us," Buono told reporters Thursday as the Lions held a walk-through ahead of Friday's game against the Eskimos. "I know it is for Khalif. For him, this is not who he wants people to think that he is. You can really sense (his) embarrassment."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'In a nutshell, it doesn't look good'

NHL. Union offers fall flat, taking air out of optimism for full season

Sidney Crosby speaks at a press conference after negotiations in Toronto on Thursday. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The NHL labour situation appears grim after an exchange of proposals between the league and the union accomplished little.

The NHL Players' Association rejected an offer from the league that would see revenue split 50-50 between the league and the players.

The union countered with three proposals, which league commissioner Gary Bettman called "thoroughly disappointing" on Thursday.

"None of the three variations of player share that they gave us even began to approach 50-50, either at all or for some long period of time," Bettman said.

"It's clear we're not speaking the same language."

Union executive director Donald Fehr disagreed, saying two of the proposals would see the players take a fixed amount of revenue, which would turn into an approximate 50-50 split over the term of the deal provided league revenues continued to grow.

The third approach would be a 50-50 split, as long as the league honoured all existing contracts at full value.

The NHLPA showed up to the meeting with a show of force, including star players Sidney Crosby, Jarome Iginla, Jonathan Toews and Eric Staal. Like the leaders of the two sides, the players did not seem optimistic after the afternoon meeting.

"We came in here today with those proposals thinking that we could really make some progress, and to hear those words (from Bettman) kind of shuts it down pretty quickly," Crosby said. "In a nutshell, it doesn't look good."

Bettman said the league's proposal is fair and would allow for an 82-game season to start Nov. 2.

But Fehr said the players could sacrifice nearly $1.8 billion in revenue under the league's proposal.

Fehr said concessions made by the players in the last round of bargaining have cost them $3.3 billion over the term of the last agreement. The players currently get 57 per cent of revenues.

"This is not a good day," Fehr said. "It should have been, but it's not."

Bettman said no new talks are immediately scheduled. He said he is still hopeful the league can have a full season, but time is running out.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"I don't know what the next step is. I'm obviously very disappointed."

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman

Gary Bettman during a Thursday afternoon press conference in Toronto. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHLPA executive director Donald Fehr reacts to a question from a reporter on Thursday. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fallout

Crosby more seriously considering Europe

There was simply no way for Sidney Crosby to hide his disappointment.

Just one week after telling The Canadian Press he was confident a deal could be struck that would save the NHL season, the Pittsburgh Penguins captain acknowledged Thursday that he was going to start looking closer at what options might be available to play in Europe.

"A little harder, yeah," Crosby said. "I think that's something that everyone's got to figure out. You try to figure out where things stand and I don't think they're in a great spot right now."

Tigers put exclamation point on ALCS

Miguel Cabrera celebrates Thursday's ALCS-clinching win over the Yankees with his Tigers teammates in Detroit. JONATHAN DANIEL/GETTY IMAGES

NLCS

The St. Louis Cardinals roughed up Tim Lincecum and the San Francisco Giants in an 8-1 rout Thursday to take a 3-1 lead in the NL championship series.

Prince Fielder waved his arms frantically, gleefully calling off his teammates before catching the final out.

From the moment Fielder signed his massive contract in January, an entire city had been waiting for a moment like this.

Max Scherzer capped a stupendous stretch for Detroit's starting rotation, and the Tigers advanced to the World Series, beating the New York Yankees 8-1 on Thursday for a four-game sweep of the AL championship series.

Miguel Cabrera and Jhonny Peralta hit two-run homers in a four-run fourth inning against CC Sabathia, who was unable to prevent the Yankees from getting swept in a playoff series for the first time in 32 years.

"Yeah, we did it," Cabrera said. "It's an unbelievable feeling.... Four more wins, guys. Four more wins."

Scherzer took a no-hit bid into the sixth against a Yankees team that hit .188 in the postseason and .157 in the LCS. New York went quietly in the ninth inning, the last three batters shut down in order.

Detroit won its 11th American League pennant and first since 2006. The Tigers have five days off before the World Series starts Wednesday at defending champion St. Louis or 2010 winner San Francisco.

Tigers designated hitter Delmon Young was selected MVP of the series. He batted .353 with two homers and six RBIs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
There may be an element of truth in what others are saying about you today, so don't just ignore it. You're not too old to learn and the best kind of learning is the kind that increases your self-awareness.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
A rather tense day is possible and, just this once, you may have no option but to confront someone you don't get along with. Where some issues are concerned, there can be no middle ground. Fight to win.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Daydreaming can be a lot of fun but don't let it keep you from doing what you should be doing. Routine tasks may be boring but they must be done and they must be done well, so get on with it.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Do not be offended if a loved one wants to spend some time alone. They have some serious inner issues to deal with and the only way they can do that is to isolate themselves from outside influences.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
There is no point getting angry about what happens today. All you can do is let fate take its course and hope it leads you somewhere worth going. Don't take your frustrations out on those who care for you.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Give yourself permission to try new things. Don't worry that others might say you are being irresponsible. If you can dream it, you can do it — it's as simple as that. Maybe that's what they are afraid of.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will get the chance to get rid of something that is holding you back from fulfilling your potential. Take it or you may look back in a few weeks and wish you had been a bit more adventurous.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Someone has let you down and your first reaction will be to do something nasty to them in return. If you get into the revenge business, you could start a feud that never ends.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
The depth of your feelings may be making you uncomfortable but there is no point pretending they do not exist. No matter how hard you try to deny them, they will bounce back even stronger.

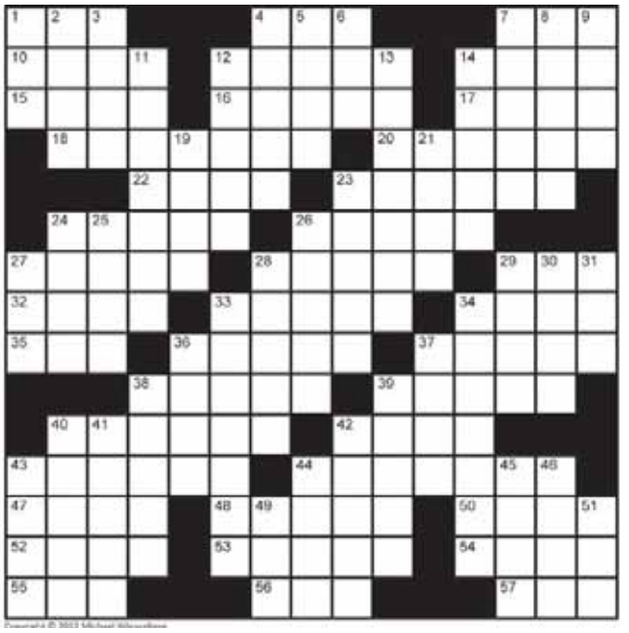
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You won't be pleased if someone treats your concerns in a flippant manner but try not to overreact. When all is said and done, there are more important things on which you should be spending your precious time and energy.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You are a force to be reckoned with and anyone who does not believe that now will be made to believe it when the Sun changes signs on the 23rd. You have big plans, plans that will soon turn into realities.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
No matter how much others may mock your beliefs, you intend to stick with them. Deep down, your critics know they are the ones who are on the wrong track. That's why they think you're so dangerous. The truth hurts. SALLY BROMPTON

A Little French

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Common conjunctions
4. Meadow
7. Morning times, for short
10. Night: Fr.
12. Whole grains add this to a diet
14. *Elizabeth* star Blanchett
15. Nobel peace prize presentation site
16. Brain sections
17. Angel: Fr.
18. Tim ___
20. Margot ___: Yellowknife-born Lois Lane portrayer in four Superman movies
22. Cinnabar and hematite
23. Gasoline units
24. Movie theatres: Fr.
26. Leg: Fr.
27. Robson et Logan, par exemple
28. Birch bark boat
29. Broadcaster based in Toronto
32. River through Florence
33. Nickels-and-___: bothers with trivialities
34. Took care of an IOU
35. ___ and outs
36. Heads: Fr.
37. Ladies: Fr.
38. Bank repositories
39. More adorable
40. Cinnamon and saffron
42. Act a bit vexed
43. BC fisherman's pursuit
44. Fries, cheese, and gravy dish
47. Another word for margarine
48. British spy novelist John Le ___ (*The Spy Who Came in From the Cold*; *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy)* (the pseudonymous last name means "the square" in French)
50. Consumes
52. "Terrible" Russian leader
53. Common form of communication
54. A little tight
55. "Au secours!"
56. CPR expert: initialism
57. Canada's most populous prov.

Down
1. Sean Lennon's mother Yoko
2. Toronto-based "Tom Sawyer" group
3. Farm storage site
4. Vancouver CFL Team
5. Diminishes
6. Exist
7. *Biography* cable channel (3 wds.)
8. Homeowners' loans: abbr.
9. Crystal ball gazer
11. Canada's largest city
12. Floating ice sheets
13. Edmonton's CFL team
14. Core group of trained personnel
19. Very: Fr.
21. "Let ___": Beatles album and song (2 wds.)
23. Country roads
24. Cob covering
25. Overnight stops
26. "Bond, ___ Bond"
27. Après Avril
28. Gives a ticket
29. Arrived
30. Coffin support
31. Audiophile's collection
33. Football side that doesn't have the ball
34. Hamburgers-to-be
36. Mexican restaurant fare
37. Composition for two
38. ___ and Garfunkel
39. Brutal
40. Artillery burst
41. "Guilty" and "not guilty"
42. 'You're asking ___!" (2 wds.)
43. Je ___: I am (in French)
44. Baby buggy, to Brits
45. Small iPod model
46. Vingt- ___: blackjack, from French for "21" (2 wds.)
49. Soul: Fr.
51. Can. Army rank

Yesterday's Crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

4		7		3	5			2
	1		9					7
	5		2				4	
8							6	
		2	5		3	9		
	9							1
	4				8		2	
1					9		3	
6			3	5		4		

Yesterday's Sudoku

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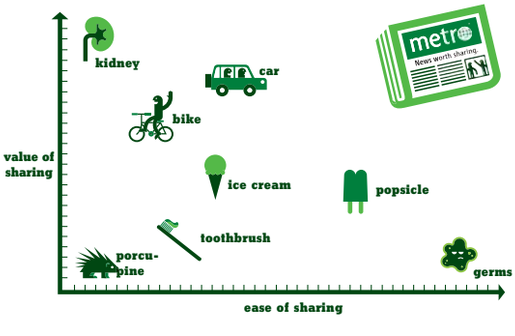

Conditions apply. *Offer valid on specific Disney Cruise Line sailings. Kids must travel with 2 full-fare guests in the same stateroom. Specific stateroom categories and dates apply. The number of staterooms allocated for this offer is limited. Kids pay taxes and fees. This offer is only available to residents of the U.S. and Canada. This offer cannot be combined with any other special offers or discounts. Offer subject to Disney Cruise Line Terms and Conditions. Offer is subject to change and may be withdrawn at any time without notice by the supplier. Additional restrictions may apply. CPBC Reg #55477

breakfast

$2

sandwich

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Huatulco — from $495
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Christmas & New Year's

Whistler
New Years Eve, 2 Nights
from **$395**
taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom in the Village over New Years Eve.

Harrison Hot Springs
New Years Eve, 2 Nights — from $119
taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom near Harrison Lake over New Years Eve. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $28 per night.

San Francisco Christmas Special
Air + 3 Nights — from $684
incl $552 base + $132 taxes & fees
INCLUDES boutique accom downtown. **BONUS** daily breakfast included. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $39 per night. **ADD** wine country tour from $70.

Las Vegas New Year's Eve
Air + 4 Nights 4-Star — from $740
incl $607 base + $133 taxes & fees
INCLUDES 4-star accom on the Strip.

Puerto Vallarta Christmas
Air + 7 Nights 4-Star All-inclusive — from $1413
incl $1289 base + $124 taxes & fees
INCLUDES 4-star all-inclusive accom.

Los Cabos Christmas
Air + 7 Nights 4-Star All-inclusive — from $1555
incl $1315 base + $240 taxes & fees
INCLUDES 4-star all-inclusive accom.

Long Stay Vacations

Puerto Vallarta
Air + 22 Nights
from **$1599**
incl $1475 base + $124 taxes & fees
INCLUDES accom at a beachfront resort in Puerto Vallarta's hotel zone.

St Petersburg, FL
Air + 21 Nights — from $1699
incl $1564 base + $135 taxes & fees
INCLUDES resort-style accom with kitchenette at a beachfront location.

French Riviera
Air + 21 Nights — from $1869
incl $1313 base + $556 taxes & fees
INCLUDES Saint-Laurent-du-Var area accom with full kitchen, near the beach.

USA

Las Vegas
Air + 3 Nights
from **$219***
incl $139 base + $80 taxes & fees
INCLUDES airfare from Bellingham and accom on the Strip. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $17 per night.

Anaheim Family Special
Air + 3 Nights — from $308◊
incl $184 base + $124 taxes & fees
INCLUDES accom near theme parks. Price per person based on family of 4. **ADD** *Disneyland* Resort 3-Day *1-Park Per Day* Ticket from $222/adult, $207/child (ages 3-9).

Palm Springs
Air + 3 Nights 4-Star — from $422
incl $289 base + $133 taxes & fees
INCLUDES downtown accom near attractions.

Phoenix Air + 3 Nights 4-Star — from $599
incl $471 base + $128 taxes & fees
INCLUDES all-suite accom. **ADD** Sedona red rock adventure from $162.

New York Air + 3 Nights 4-Star — from $718
incl $539 base + $179 taxes & fees
INCLUDES midtown Manhattan accom.

Ski Vacations

Whistler Opening Weekend
2 Nights 4-Star
from **$175**
taxes & fees included
INCLUDES Village accom with kitchenette during the season's opening weekend. **ADD** 3-day Whistler/Blackcomb lift ticket from $237.

Silver Star
2 Nights + Lift Ticket — from $234
taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom in the heart of Silver Star and 1-day lift ticket.

Big White 3 Nights + Lift Tickets — from $359
taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom steps from ski lifts and 3-day lift ticket.

Sun Peaks
4 Nights + Lift Tickets — from $384
taxes & fees included
INCLUDES accom in the heart of the village and 3-day lift ticket.

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All-inclusive Vacations

Los Cabos
7 Nights 4-Star
from **$718**
incl $366 base + $352 taxes & fees

Riviera Nayarit
7 Nights 4.5-Star — from $815
incl $575 base + $240 taxes & fees

Punta Cana 7 Nights 4-Star — from $875
incl $489 base + $386 taxes & fees

Varadero 7 Nights 4-Star — from $963
incl $764 base + $199 taxes & fees

Riviera Maya 7 Nights 5-Star — from $1035
incl $695 base + $340 taxes & fees

Huatulco 7 Nights 4.5-Star — from $1045
incl $705 base + $340 taxes & fees

Hawaii

Honolulu Air + 7 Nights
from **$879**
incl $709 base + $170 taxes & fees
INCLUDES accom near Waikiki Beach.

Kona Air + 7 Nights — from $844
incl $689 base + $155 taxes & fees
INCLUDES accom located on Kailua Bay.

Maui Air + 7 Nights — from $978
incl $809 base + $169 taxes & fees
INCLUDES Kihei accom across the street from the beach.

Hawaii Island Hopper
Air + 7 Nights — from $1249
incl $1115 base + $134 taxes & fees
INCLUDES all airfare, 3 nights Maui accom and 4 nights Oahu accom.

Cruise & Stay

Hawaii
Air + 2 Nights + 13-Night Cruise
from **$1869**
incl $1677 base + $192 taxes & fees
INCLUDES airfare, accom near Waikiki Beach and cruise sailing Honolulu to Vancouver visiting Kauai, Maui, The Big Island and Victoria. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom and an oceanview stateroom from $22 per night.

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